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ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1890-91

Colonies General

29

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS

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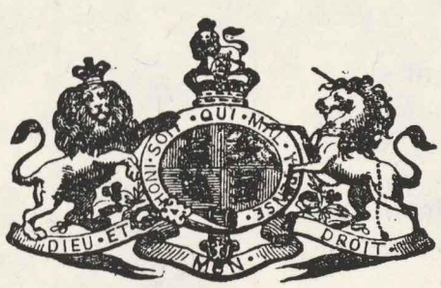
No. 114.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT OF THE ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER FOR 1889-90.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 70)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1890.



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1890.

[C.—6221.–3.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

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65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
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74	Gold Coast	,,
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76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Report)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
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84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
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No. 114.

BASUTOLAND.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 70.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 14, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the annual report of Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1890.

It affords me much pleasure to note the general progress which has been made during the past year, and I am glad to have this opportunity of again reporting my high appreciation of the services of Sir M. Clarke, Mr. Lagden, and the officers under them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 25, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the following report on British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1890, together with copies of reports from

The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mohales Hoek.

2. Proclamations having legislative effect have been issued by the High Commissioner,

(*a.*) Providing for the constitution of combined courts;
(*b.*) Providing for the legalisation of certain marriages;
(*c.*) Establishing rules and regulations concerning the granting of pensions.

64040. Wt. 18975.

BASUTOLAND. 3. Upon receipt of a petition signed by the Paramount Chief and all the leading Chiefs praying for the establishment of a Council in Basutoland, Sir M. Clarke invited them to meet together and, finding that the desire for it appeared unanimous, submitted a proposal to the High Commissioner, embodying, *inter alia*:—

The form and constitution of a Council.

The scope to be assigned to it.

The prominent feature in the proposal was that the Council should be consultative only for the purpose of giving the people an opportunity of indicating their wishes and affording advice on matters connected with domestic affairs. The High Commissioner in signifying his assent to the measure announced that it was a gift of a tentative and experimental nature, the continuance of which must depend upon the conduct of the members and the loyal and orderly execution of the work confided to them.

4. Unfriendly relations continue to exist between many of the Chiefs, though there has been no serious intertribal fighting. They have a habit, invariably condemned by Government, of taking up arms upon any disputes arising instead of submitting them to courts, thus increasing the chances of complications.

At the annual Pitso in October last the Resident Commissioner again had occasion to address the nation on this subject as well as to complain of the objectionable method employed by the Paramount Chief and others in sending expeditions to "eat up" people's cattle and property without trial or for trivial offences. In this way many innocent people are made to suffer with the guilty, and it affords some reasonable grounds for the occasional complaints made against chieftainship.

The driving of people from lands which they held in lawful tribal possession also formed a renewed subject of discussion at the Pitso and was much deprecated by the Resident Commissioner. Grievances of these descriptions tended to cause dissatisfaction, particularly in certain parts of the mountains that had suffered, and produced a desire in some quarters to remove out of Basutoland were it possible.

Representations are not infrequent that the Paramount Chief, enfeebled by age, is unequal to the tasks imposed upon him by his position, and that his authority is occasionally misapplied by irresponsible persons.

5. The crime returns for this year are not heavy. One man convicted of the murder of a woman under diabolical circumstances was hung at Mohales Hoek.

The Chiefs as a rule have rendered valuable assistance in recovering stolen stock, bringing offenders to justice, and maintaining order on the border. The Chief Maama forms almost a solitary exception, he having been disposed to connive at the harbouring of criminals and stolen property, and, together with his younger brother Mojala, having shown an inclination to disregard the provisions of the law for the compulsory attendance in foreign courts of witnesses required for evidence in the furtherance of justice.

6. In December last several parties interested in prospecting for gold and other minerals approached the Chiefs with a view to obtaining their consent for concessions, but without success. Similar overtures made to Government were refused.

7. The liquor traffic continues to be carried on in a minor degree only. The Chief Lerothodi, whose ward extends along an open border of the Free State affording easy access to illicit places of sale, is still addicted to drink, but when his messengers are caught in the act by police patrols they are surrendered without demur for trial. I regret to say that his eldest son, who is but a boy, has lately given way to it, and being caught was severely fined.

8. Our relations with the neighbouring territories are good, the Government officers on all sides of the border co-operating with much advantage.

9. The fencing of the Free State border between the Caledon River and Cornet Spruit by the farmers has been partially done, Basutoland bearing a portion of the cost. This measure is calculated to have a good effect in preventing border disputes of trespass and in checking the liquor traffic.

10. In April last Sir Henry Loch was pleased to pay Basutoland a visit and afford the nation an opportunity of seeing and conversing with him. With the exception of the Paramount Chief Letsie, who pleaded illness and old age, all the principal Chiefs and Headmen in the country, together with upwards of 15,000 men, assembled to express their gratitude to his Excellency for the visit and their loyalty to the Queen. During the several days this concourse was gathered at Maseru their conduct was remarkable for the display of order, discipline, and good feeling.

11. In May last Sir Marshall Clarke proceeded to England on leave of absence.

12. There has been a great improvement in trade. Several new trading stations were opened, the number of licensed traders being increased from 79 to 119. A large number of hawkers with waggons came to the country in the grain season and stimulated the market. The wheat crop, which had been fairly good, realised heavy prices, and other cereals were at a hgh value.

Imports for the year amounted approximately to about 160,000*l.*

The exclusive measures adopted in the Orange Free State towards Arab traders resulted in the establishment of man of them in Basutoland.

13. During the year over 39,000 passes were issued to natives, the majority of whom sought work in the neighbouring territories at the mining and railway centres. As a result a great deal of money returned to Basutoland, giving additional impetus to the improving trade.

14. The native police in the territory continue to be efficient. A measure for the recognition of continuous good service is under consideration. Stabling at each station is now completed.

BASUTOLAND.

15. The public health of the territory is satisfactory. An epidemic of small-pox, extending from Matatiele, broke out on the Orange River, but was arrested by the prompt action taken for isolation. Enteric fever prevailed for a few months in Leribe. Fortunately a medical officer had just been appointed there whose presence no doubt had the effect of saving many lives. Influenza ran its course in waves, but the medical officers had no difficulty in treatment, describing it as insignificant in type, though unpleasant to sufferers.

It will be seen from medical reports what a large number of patients have been treated at the Free Dispensaries, which are now established in five districts with success and benefit to the public.

16. The past year has been prolific in damages to roads, working parties, although augmented, being scarcely able to cope with the demand for repairs.

A variety of useful and necessary public works have been completed or provided for, including a hospital at Maseru, public offices at Leribe, quarters for police officers, a pont on the Cornet Spruit, portion of border fence, saddlers' shops, stores, &c. Continuous work has been carried on at Quthing in extension of the road *viâ* Ongeluks Nek to Matatiele, and one of the most inaccessible places *en route* is now practically traversed.

17. The work of religion is advancing steadily under the patient care of the various missions. The English Church Society contemplates extending its sphere of labours considerably. All schools receiving aid have been inspected by Government officers, who express satisfaction generally with the year's progress.

The grants-in-aid entrusted to the various mission societies for distribution have apparently been well applied. A separate report on the subject of education will accompany this.

18. The question as to the sources of the Caledon River, which formed the subject of correspondence with the Orange Free State Government, but has been in abeyance for the past two years, is now again under consideration, and I have arranged to meet President Reitz for the purpose of making a joint inspection of the head waters.

19. I have much pleasure in representing the good service rendered by the officers of this Administration. Their positions involve responsibilities of a delicate nature, requiring the exercise of much tact and discretion in dealing with Chiefs and acquiring their co-operation. To their exertions is due the improved state of our revenue.

20. I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner,
South Africa.

BASUTOLAND.

Pastoral and Agricultural.

The wheat crop of the past season was a fairly good one, and realised a good price. The crop of mealies, though not yet harvested, appears to be good. The Kafir corn, owing to its backward condition at the fall of the early frosts, suffered severely and little has been reaped. The cattle are not in good condition, the pasturage being very limited.

Commercial.

The past year has been marked by a large increase in the amount of trade done. Money has been plentiful in the country, being brought by Basuto from the goldfields and other labour markets.

The price of produce has been high, wheat having been purchased from the natives for as much as 30*s.* per bag. The number of stores has increased, and I have issued 18 general traders' licenses for the current year, and 106 hawkers' monthly licenses.

Roads.

All the roads require constant inspection and repair on account of the destructive effects of heavy rains. All roads at present are passable.

Education.

I have forwarded a report on my inspection of the different schools of the district. There appears to be unfortunately a difficulty experienced by the Missionary Society in obtaining the services of qualified native teachers. On this account several of the schools are closed.

Crime.

I append a return of criminal cases heard in my office.

Theft - - - - - -	9
Assault - - - - -	2
Contravening Basutoland trading regulations -	4
Total - - - -	15

All lost stock traced into Basutoland has been recovered.

Labour.

I have been able to get a sufficient number of labourers for my road parties at the usual rate of 1*s.* a day. It is reported that farmers on the Free State border have found a difficulty in procuring a sufficient supply of agricultural labourers. This is probably on account of the superior attractions of the gold and diamonds fields, railway works, &c.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	18,674	9	1
Licenses - - - -	1,532	17	6
Fines and fees - - -	285	6	6
Miscellaneous - - -	478	2	1
Postal revenue - - -	635	5	1
	21,606	0	3

Licenses.

General traders - - - -	119
Hawkers - - - - -	450

Schools.

Number of schools - - -	113
Number of scholars on books -	6,442
Amount expended on education -	4,303*l.* 2*s.*

Free Dispensaries.

Number of patients - - -	11,026

BEREA DISTRICT.

Report for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

During the past year the political situation in the district has remained unchanged. The disputes as to rights of chieftainship between Masupha and Peete, and Masupha and Leshoboro, still exist. In July 1889 Lebese, the son of Masupha, seized some cattle belonging to Peete at Mosalomane. This was followed by a reprisal on Peete's part, who seized some cattle of Masupha's people. The cattle were afterwards restored to their owners, and the case dealt with by the Resident Commissioner; but the rival claims of Masupha and Peete at Mosalomane may at any time result in a serious quarrel. The removal of Moiketse, a son of Masupha, from Peete's neighbourhood at Libopeng has apparently tranquillised that portion of the country. During June a dispute between Masupha and Theko Letsie as to rights at Thaba Bosin was the occasion of a meeting at which the disputants agreed to refer the matter to the Paramount Chief Letsie. In all these matters Masupha complains that he is not treated with justice by the Paramount Chief. The Chiefs have rendered the necessary assistance in the collection of hut tax. In a few cases natives have complained to me of their treatment by their Chiefs. I do not, however, unless in cases of exceptional injustice, consider it advisable to interfere between the Chiefs and their people. A few of the Chiefs still set a bad example to their people by occasional excess in brandy drinking, but I am glad to say it is by no means a general practice, and few cases of drunkenness have come to my notice.

Revenue.

Revenue collected in Berea district from 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,798	12	0
Licenses - - - -	296	0	0
Fines - - - -	32	0	0
Fees for grain passes - -	0	12	6
Fees for registration of marriages -	0	5	0
„ „ transfer of licenses -	0	5	0
Miscellaneous receipts - -	6	14	0
Total - -	4,134	8	6

Of the above revenue 1,500*l.* represents arrears of tax for previous years. For the past year tax has been paid on 4,530 huts.

6,086 passes have been issued to natives leaving Basutoland.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

General.

There have been but few disturbances during the year, and those of a trivial nature: the principal one being a raid made by Motsweni in August 1889 on the village of Tsulo Mopedi, who was accused of practising witchcraft. His village was looted and he and his followers were beaten and ill-treated.

The case was dealt with by the Chief Jonathan, and some of Motsweni's men were punished.

Tsulo Mopede's people were supplied by the Government with seed corn, their own grain having been destroyed.

A dispute has arisen between the Chiefs Joel Molapo and Matela over their respective rights to a piece of country on the Upper Caledon known as Mechachaneng. The question appears to have been raised by Lerothode, who visited that part of the district in January 1889, and informed Matela that he must consider himself as directly under the Paramount Chief Letsie, and not under Joel. Since then Matela has, apparently, considered himself as an independent Chief, and has given a good deal of trouble to the officer in charge of Joel Molapo's ward.

Another petty Chief, who has been encouraged by Letsie to assert himself in this direction, is Leluigoana, Chief of the refugee "Bathlokoa," who were driven out of East Griqualand in the Gun War and took refuge in the heart of the Maluti Mountains, near the sources of the Orange River. Leluigoana has since, from

time to time, interfered with the people in charge of Joel's outlying cattle posts in the mountains, seizing their crops, &c., and recently, Letsie sent messengers to confirm Leluigoana in the possession of the lands he had seized, and to order Joel's people to remove thence.

This action of Letsie's is to be regretted, and has, together with the destruction, through his influence, of the friendly relations previously existing between Joel and Matela, caused much dissatisfaction in the district.

Population.

Beyond natural increase there is not much alteration since last year, when the number was estimated at 50,000.

Revenue.

The amount collected during the year is 4,539*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, which is made up as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,888	10	6
Licenses - - - -	597	17	6
Fines - - - -	16	7	0
Fees - - - -	1	15	0
Special receipts - - -	34	16	3
	4,539	6	3

The above is for the whole district, inclusive of Buthabuthe ward, and exceeds last year's collections, which amounted to 4,418*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*

Crime.

The criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court at Thlotse Heights during the year are as follows:—

Contravention of pass regulations - -	2
Assault - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - -	7
Contravention of trading regulations - -	2
Obtaining money under false pretences -	1
Assault with intent to do bodily harm - -	1
Resisting police - - - -	1
Contravention of liquor regulations - -	1
Gaol breaking - - - -	2
Contravention of law relating to firearms -	1

By Combined Court.

Murder - - - -	1
Contravention of law relating to firearms -	1

Education.

A report on the Government-aided schools in Leribe was sent in on the 12th instant.

Commercial.

Trade appears to be on the increase, judging from the fact that 27 general traders' licenses and 112 hawkers' licenses have been taken out during the past year, and only 12 general traders and 41 hawkers' licenses were issued for 1889. A large proportion of the new licenses have been taken out by Arabs or coolies.

Prices for horses, cattle, and grain rule higher than last year.

Public Works.

The roads in this district are in fair order, but require constant attention.

Officers' quarters are in process of erection at Thlotse Heights, and new public offices and a dispensary are about to be commenced.

Medical.

There was an outbreak of camp fever at Thlotse Heights in December 1889; several cases terminated fatally.

Dr. G. Casalis was appointed District Surgeon, and assumed his duties in January last. His report is attached.

Police.

The police detachment stationed in the district continues in a satisfactory state of efficiency.

The horses appear to benefit from the improved stabling provided last year. The lost stock reports show:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	24	6	18	6	
Cattle - -	29	10	19	9	The one traced and not recovered was killed by lightning.
Goats - -	44	44	—	44	

Relations with Bordering States.

The Orange Free State officials have generally shown a wish to co-operate cordially with us in border matters, &c. There was some correspondence between this office and the Kronstad authorities in December 1889 and January last on the subject of

BASUTOLAND.

witness's expenses and compensation, due to certain native witnesses for detention, and for stock given up by them. Delay in payments of this nature is to be regretted as adding to the difficulty sometimes experienced in inducing natives to proceed to the courts of the Orange Free State to give evidence.

The question of the boundary between Basutoland and the Free State on the Upper Caledon has not yet been settled.

The annual report of Sub-inspector Boxwell, of Buthabuthe, is attached, also the under-mentioned documents:—

Report of district surgeon.
Return of revenue.*
Return of passes.*

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe, 30th June 1890.

SIR, Buthabuthe, June 30, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to forward you the annual report for the year ended 30th June 1890.

General.

That part of the Leribe District under my immediate charge has, on the whole, been quiet during the past year.

In August 1889 Chief Motsueni attacked Tsolo Mopedi, and drove him into Joel's ward, where Tsolo has since been living.

There have been constant small disputes as to land, &c. between Joel's people and Matela's, all arising out of the big question as to the chieftainship of the country north of the Hololo.

Most of these disturbances have been of little immediate consequence. In only one case was any one dangerously hurt in connexion with them.

I regret to have to report that in January last two murders were committed in this ward.

In one case a man, unknown, murdered a young girl on January 19th, near the Kalo River. No cause can be assigned for this murder.

On the following day a man living under Buthabuthe Mountain killed his wife in a fit of passion, wounded his two children badly and an old woman, and finally shot himself.

There has been a good deal of trouble during the year also between Lelingoana's people and Lekunya's, who live behind the mountains, as to ownership of land.

Mohanoe and his people have been sent away from there by order of the Paramount Chief Letsie, and Lekunya has been ordered to leave as soon as he has reaped his crops.

---

* Not printed.

Hut Tax.

The hut tax has been well paid up this year, the sum being slightly in excess of that for the previous year. The total revenue for the ward also shows an increase of some 85*l.* over that of last year.

Roads.

The roads have until lately been in very fair order. I am, however, unable at present to get men to work, as they demand a higher rate of pay than that hitherto given. I propose opening a new road to Hasua's village when I can get a party to work.

Schools.

There are three schools in this ward. One under the Church of England, at Sekubu, and two under the French Protestant Church, one of which is at Kalo, and the other at Molupe's village. A separate report has been sent in on these schools.

Relations with Orange Free State.

My relations with the Orange Free State officials continue friendly. Two matters occurred lately on the border which are still under consideration. One of my police, when on duty in the Free State, was assaulted by a farmer living near the border. In the other case a Basutoland native complains that he was flogged by a Free State official without any due cause. Both these matters have been referred to the Landdrost of Bethlehem.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-inspector B. M. Police.

MAFETENG DISTRICT.

Report for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng, July 4, 1890.

In August last, upon the arrival of a gallows for the execution of a native at Mohales Hoek, who had been sentenced to death for the crime of murder, the people at this station felt very much alarmed in consequence of rumours that the Chiefs would oppose the execution, and that as a first step towards doing so they would attack the magistracies; however, the execution passed off quietly, and the excitement subsided immediately afterwards.

In their disputes with each other the Chiefs are still in the habit of calling out their men under arms, but up to the present, I am happy to say, without any bloodshed resulting therefrom. I avail myself of every opportunity to condemn the practice, pointing out the danger of it to the peace of the country, and urging the Chiefs, before whom the disputes are taken for settlement, to punish the guilty parties.

BASUTOLAND.

Smuggling is still carried on in the Orange Free State along my border, and a short time ago the introduction of brandy by the Basuto appeared to be increasing rapidly, but with the aid of the Chiefs, and the co-operation of the Landdrost of Wepener, I have succeeded in checking it to a large extent. My police who are kept constantly patrolling the border, have arrested many persons for the contravention of the liquor regulations, and amongst them were the messenger of Letsienyano, the eldest son of the Chief Lerothodi, who was fined 20*l.*, and the messenger of Lettoba, a son of Moshesh, who was fined 10*l.*

A fence, partly of wire and partly of stone wall, has been erected along the greater part of the open border between this district and the Orange Free State, half its cost being paid by the Basutoland Government, and the other half by the owners of the farms. The fence will be serviceable in preventing trespasses, and in aiding the authorities in checking the illicit liquor traffic.

Very few cases of crime have come to my notice. Thefts from the Free State rarely occur, and stolen stock traced into the district is invariably recovered; the Chiefs in such cases render me every assistance.

My relations with the authorities of the neighbouring States are friendly, and we cordially co-operate with each other in maintaining order along the border.

A Resident Medical Officer has been appointed to take charge of the Free Dispensary at this station. I enclose his report, and Dr. Brock, his predecessor, has promised to furnish one for the time during which he had charge of the dispensary.

Under the superintendence of the clergymen of the various Missionary Societies the work of religion and education has been carried on with fair progress.

Parties of men have been kept employed during the year repairing the roads.

The year has been a prosperous one, and during it all the traders in the district have, I believe, done well. The wheat crop was very good, and good prices were obtained for it. About an average crop of mealies is being reaped, but the Kafir corn crop is below the average.

The revenue, amounting to 3,330*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, fell a little short of the amount collected last year, owing to the large sum received for arrear hut tax during that year, and was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,973	10	0
Judicial fines - - -	159	10	0
Licenses - - - -	182	0	0
Marriage fees - - -	3	10	0
Fees of office - - -	3	11	0
Miscellaneous receipts - -	8	13	3
	3,330	14	3

I enclose Inspector Bowker's Report on the District of Cornet Spruit.

(Signed) W. H. SURMON,
Assistant Commissioner.

CORNET SPRUIT DISTRICT.

Annual Report.

Since my last annual Report but very little has occurred to disturb the peace of the district.

In November last the Chief Monyake died in Aliwal North, where he had been for some time under medical treatment. The body was brought to Basutoland by his brother Raborako, and is buried at Moletsane's village.

In October a considerable quantity of stock was seized by Seiso Letsie and Setha Matete, by order of the Paramount Chief, from natives living on the Malutsinyane, who last year paid hut tax under Chopo. One of the reasons given was that many of these people belonged to Matsieng District, and that Chopo had been ordered by Letsie to remove his people from that locality, but had failed to do so. This eating up of stock had a very damaging effect on the payment of hut tax in that part of the district.

In June a quarrel took place between Mokhele, Chief of the Bataung, and his brother Raborako; the dispute was about the ownership of certain garden lands. In the same month a dispute arose between Mako Sekake, Chief of the Bamohale in this District, and Taele, a younger brother of the Chief Lebona. Some of Taele's followers cut some wood claimed by Mako Sekake, hence the quarrel. In both these disputes arms were resorted to, but fortunately no fighting took place. Both cases are now in the hands of Lerothodi.

Relations with the neighbouring States continue on a friendly footing. The illicit sale of liquor has greatly diminished on the Free State Border.

Population appears to be steadily increasing, especially in the mountain portion of the district, which is becoming more thickly populated every year.

The wheat crop was exceptionally good, and good prices have prevailed, and a very large quantity has been exported to the gold and diamond fields. There is a fair amount of mealies and Kafir corn, sufficient, I think, for local requirements. Stock of all kinds is increasing.

Educational and religious work is making fair progress, and the number of schools is increasing, all of which have been inspected.

Trade in the district has greatly improved, and traders have had a busy and apparently a prosperous time during the past year. Money has been more plentiful than usual, and this is amply proved by the fact that the whole of the hut tax for the year has been paid in cash.

General trading licenses - - -	13
Hawkers - - - - -	11
Dam - - - - -	2

BASUTOLAND.

Since the establishment of the Free Dispensary the general health of the district ha simproved.

Crime of all description has decreased as the following list will show :—

Theft - - - - -	2
Assault - - - - -	1
Contempt of court - - - -	1
Contravening trading regulations - -	1

Labour is plentiful at reasonable rates: a great number of persons have been out during the past year for employment in the gold and diamond fields; 4,310 passes have been issued.

A lot of work has been done on the roads, which are now in good order. A pont is in course of construction on the Cornet Spruit, which, when floated, will prove a great convenience to the traders in the district and the travelling public generally.

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,601	10	9
Licenses - - - -	142	0	0
Fines and fees - - -	12	10	0
Miscellaneous - - -	4	12	0
Total -	2,760	12	9

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Report for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner
of Maseru, July 15, 1890.

Few events of any importance have occurred during the past year. There have been a few disputes between Chiefs and headmen, all of which have been settled by the superior Chiefs.

In January last there was a dispute between the Chief Maama Letsie and Mattelebe Moshesh. The former claimed the ward over which the latter held sway, but the matter upon reference to the Chief Letsie was decided in Mattelebe's favour.

During the latter part of June a dispute, which threatened to assume a serious character, arose between Theko Letsie and Masupha, owing to the former having cut a small patch of reeds which for some time past had been cut by the people of Masupha, but which are claimed by Theko as belonging to the Thaba Bosin ward over which he is guardian. The reeds have been deposited at a village under the mountain. Blows were prevented by the mediation of the Chief Jobo, and the case has been referred to the Paramount Chief and is still pending settlement.

In April his Excellency the High Commissioner paid a visit to Basutoland, and was met and welcomed by Lerothodi and the other Basuto Chiefs with between 12,000 and 13,000 followers. His Excellency afterwards paid a visit to Morija and Roma, the headquarters of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society and the Roman Catholic Mission respectively, which places are both in this district.

Our relations with the neighbouring Free State authorities have been most cordial, and they have continued to render us assistance in checking crime and other irregularities along the border.

The illicit sale of liquor on the Free State side of the border has been carried on only in a very limited degree, and there are no canteens along the boundary.

There has been little serious crime during the year. Theft of stock from the Free State is, I am happy to say, very rare, and in most instances where the spoor is traced into Basutoland the stock has been recovered, with the assistance of the Chiefs, and returned to the owners, and the thieves punished.

During the year the following cases were tried :—

Theft - - - - -	7
Rape - - - - -	1
Attempt to commit rape - - -	1
Contravention of trading regulations - -	4
Various minor offences - - -	5
	18

The wheat and mealie crops have been good this season, but the Kafir corn crop has been poor, partly owing to early frosts. There was a great demand for the former cereal, which realised a good price, the natives obtaining as much as 25*s.* per muid for it. There has also been a demand for all live stock, especially ponies, a number of which have lately been purchased in the district for the South African Company, and fair prices were obtained.

Trade has also been exceptionally good during the past year, owing to the large sums of money brought into the country by labourers returning from the diamond and gold fields. There are now 16 licensed traders in this district, and 82 hawkers' licenses were issued during the year.

Native labour has been fairly plentiful during the year at the current rate of 1*s.* per man per day.

Three thousand five hundred natives have obtained passes to seek work at the various mining centres and in the neighbouring States, and 4,060 natives to leave the territory for various purposes.

Owing to late rains and exceptionally heavy traffic, the roads in the district have been very badly cut up, but parties have been continuously engaged upon them and they are now in fair repair.

The various schools in this district receiving grants from Government have lately been visited by an officer, and on the whole appear to be making satisfactory progress.

BASUTOLAND.

The Free Dispensary at Maseru continues to be much appreciated by the Basuto, who visit it in great numbers. A new hospital is being built to replace the old one, which is tumbling down.

The police at this station are in a very efficient state and continue to perform their duties satisfactorily.

The revenue of the district shows an increase as compared with that of last year. About 543*l.* of the hut tax is arrears. The following are the amounts received under the various heads:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,567	18	5
Licenses - - - -	251	12	6
Fines, fees, &c. - - -	41	12	0
Miscellaneous receipts - -	292	14	10
Sale of unclaimed stock - -	7	6	0
Postal revenue brought to account in district books - -	635	5	1
	4,796	8	10

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

The Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

QUTHING DISTRICT.

Annual Report.

Since last year's report no matter of political importance has occurred in Quthing district. A number of native families with their stock have removed from the Cape Colony and obtained locations in Quthing.

Rains came late, and frost fell somewhat early, but still the harvest was good, and the grain for food supply is ample. Good seed wheat has been distributed, and several persons were supplied with young trees, which they have planted with satisfactory results.

There are now two French mission schools receiving Government grants-in-aid. I have inspected all these schools, which have a total attendance of 424 scholars, most of whom are making fair progress with their studies.

There are six general traders in this district and business has been good, as money is plentiful, owing to the high prices paid for produce, and the good wages given to native labourers on railway and other works in adjacent territories. The value of wheat is 17*s.*, mealies 8*s.*, Kafir corn 10*s.* per muid. Wool has realised an average price of 4*d.* a lb. Fair prices have been paid for horses, cattle, and small stock.

A Free Dispensary has been opened at Moyeni, and a medical officer attends twice a month. This supplies a want long felt, and the medical assistance is much appreciated by the public. I attach a report from the medical officer.

The following civil and criminal cases have been heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil action - - - - -	1
Homicide - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	4
Escaping from gaol - - - -	1
Contravening trading regulations -	2
„ pass „ - - -	7
Cases dismissed - - - -	2

The Quthing detachment of police continue to perform excellent service, and the border adjoining Cape Colony is constantly patrolled. The strength of the detachment is—

1 sub-inspector,
2 European constables,
30 rank and file,

all mounted.

Labour is plentiful, and the rate of wages paid to men of 1*s.* per diem employed on road-work has not been increased.

The waggon roads and bridle paths are in good order throughout Quthing district, and the new road across the Drakensberg to Ongeluks Nek has been advanced some miles, but progress is necessarily slow owing to the difficult nature of the country.

A residency has been built for the officer in charge of Quthing district. A dispensary, saddler's workshop, police stable, and a store for Government property have been erected during the past year, and the existing Government offices were repaired.

The total revenue collected from 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890 amounts to 2,044*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, of which 1,844*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* was hut tax. Tax was paid on 3,186 huts. Arrear hut tax amounts to 190*l.* Total number of passes issued 4,042.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Medical Report.

The number of attendances at the Free Dispensary during the year ending June 30th, 1890, was 5,397, as compared with 3,402 during the preceding year; of the above 4,520 were new cases, the marked increase showing the confidence of the Basuto in the European methods of treatment. Eighteen cases were admitted into hospital, 2 moribund, 15 were discharged cured, 1 improved.

The state of the present building hardly admits of in-patients. I shall be glad when the new building is completed.

The health of the district has been good.

BASUTOLAND.

There were a few mild cases of measles, also of influenza.

Ophthalmia was extremely prevalent in the summer, and whooping cough in the autumnal months.

The disease called makaula seems steadily on the decrease. It is difficult to decide whether it is a modified form of syphilis or not. The number of cases of true tertiary syphilis were very few.

There were 48 cases of phthisis, all among the more civilised natives; they proved very amenable to treatment.

I was called upon to investigate a reported outbreak of small-pox at Lepoqo's village, which turned out to be a modified form of chicken-pox. Also an outbreak of fever at Joas Akunes, low, typhoid, intermittent, arising probably from bad drinking water. There were no deaths among 40 cases.

Only two cases of leprosy were seen at the dispensary. I am making inquiries into the extent of the disease in the district and shall report more fully later. At present the small number of cases gives no cause for anxiety.

There was a complaint as to the small quantity of food issued as rations by the prisoners at the gaol, but considering that they increased on an average 8 lbs. each during six weeks I had them weighed, I think there was little cause for complaint.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE.

MAFETENG DISTRICT.

Medical Report.

During a period dating from 18th May 1890 to 30th June 1890 324 patients have been treated at the dispensary.

The following is a classification of the cases treated:—

Makaula	104
Chest diseases	35
Diphtheria	5
Leprosy	5
Other medical cases	111
Venereal diseases	10
Skin diseases	19
Surgical cases	35

The cases of diphtheria were confined to the inhabitants of Mafeteng and were all of a mild type.

Great need exists for hospital accommodation for acute cases and operations. Several cases are awaiting operation for want of the necessary accommodation.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lon.

Mafeteng, 4th July 1890.

Mafeteng Dispensary.

During the 10 months ended 30th April 1890 the number of cases treated was 2,101.

Up to the end of March last the dispensary register was kept in the same manner as last year, I therefore confine the figures given below to that period.

The attendance during the nine months ending 31st March was :—

A. Cases seen for the first time - -	1,189
B. Cases seen more than once - -	684
	1,873

The dispensary was open 30 days. Average attendance 62. In Class A. 732, or 61 per cent., were cases of makaula and 457 of other diseases. In Class B. 617, or 90 per cent., were makaula and 67 other diseases. I regret that the amount of work to be done rendered any attempt at a classification of makaula cases impossible. I am satisfied, however, that in this, as in last, year, the large majority of these cases was syphilitic.

Comparison of this with last year's figures shows :—

Nine months ending 31st March 1890. Number of days open 30. Average attendance 62.

Class.	No. of Cases.	Makaula.	Other Diseases.	Per-centage of Makaula.
A.	1,189	732	457	61
B.	684	617	67	90
Total -	1,873	1,349	524	72

Year 1888–89. Number of days open 47. Average attendance 55.

Class.	No. of Cases.	Makaula.	Other Diseases.	Per-centage of Makaula Cases.
A.	1,691	1,075	616	64
B.	886	820	66	92
Total -	2,577	1,895	682	73·5

BASUTOLAND.

That the high daily average attendance of last year has been increased, that the per-centage of makaula cases has fallen in both classes, and that the increased relative per-centage of makaula cases in Class B. as compared with those in Class A. observed towards the end of last year has continued and increased.

These results, combined with the fact that the severe types of syphilides, so common as to be the rule two years ago, are now comparatively exceptional, fairly justifies a report of considerable improvement in the general health of the district served by this dispensary.

(Signed) B. G. BROCK, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Ed.,
Late Visiting Physician.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Medical Report.

SIR, Thlotse Heights, June 30, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to report that I arrived here and took up my duties on the 17th January last. The public health in this district has been fairly good since the beginning of the winter. Last summer an epidemic fever reigned in camp and in the surrounding villages. The fever after close examination appears to have a malarial origin. It is remittent in type and closely resembles the Malta fever, well known at present to be originated by the malarial poison.

The epidemic was especially severe in Thlotse, the death rate having been eight per cent. Out of the 110 cases visited at the time 20 to 30 were serious, the fever assuming at once or after some time the typhoid symptoms and being most virulent. Though originated by climatic conditions, the epidemic has no doubt been rendered more severe by the crowded state of the camp and its filthiness. Strict hygienic measures should be taken, if possible, to obtain the clearance of old uninhabited huts, used at present as pigsties or stores.

Venereal disease seems, as far as I have been able to ascertain, not more prevalent in this district than in others. Most cases seen at the dispensary were of undoubted syphilis, the most common way of infection being by direct and indirect contact. In children the disease is in the large number of cases inherited. Leprosy, or a disease closely approaching it, has of late come under my notice. Further study is, however, necessary before ascertaining if the disease is spreading, and what would be the best methods of checking its increase.

The number of patients at the Free Dispensary has been 1,290 since I have been in charge of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

Medical Report, District of Cornet Spruit, for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

During the year ending 30th June 1890 I have attended 4,029 cases of sickness in the dispensaries of Mohales Hoek and Quthing, of these more than 800 were of persons suffering from makaula. I am glad to be able to state that there has been a steady decrease in the number of persons suffering from this disease, and from inquiries I have made I find that it is almost extinct in this immediate neighbourhood. During the year there has been very little in the way of epidemic diseases. There was some whooping cough in the early part of the year and some cases of variola.

Influenza made its appearance about the end of March, but in no case among the natives did it show any virulence, and comparatively few suffered, though most of the Europeans were affected.

There have been a good number of cases of gonorrhœa, and but few of undoubted syphilis as distinguished from makaula.

(Signed) A. YOUNG, M.B.

Medical Officer's Report for Quthing for the Year ended 30th June 1890.

During the year ending June 30, 1890, I have paid many visits to this district. The health of the district is generally very good. There has been a large number of cases of makaula; beyond this the principal number of cases that have come under my notice have been of disorders of digestion and of lung disease, but few of any serious nature.

There are a few cases of leprosy. Some cases of small-pox, imported from over the border, have occurred, from which there have been two deaths.

The villages have been isolated and there has been no intelligence of any spread of the disease.

(Signed) ARTHUR YOUNG, M.B.

Quthing, July 3rd, 1890.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,

SIR, August 8, 1890.

I HAVE the honou to submit the following report on the subject of education in Basutoland during the year ended 30th June 1890.

BASUTOLAND.

2. The sum granted in aid of schools was distributed as follows :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society -	3,065
Roman Catholic - - - -	430
English Church - - - -	150
Undenominational - - -	94
On account of boys at industrial and training schools beyond Basutoland -	114

3. The number of schools in the country is 113, having a nominal roll of 6,442 and a mean average attendance return 4,245.

4. It will be seen that the work of education has increased. All schools receiving Government aid have been inspected by Government officers whose opinions are that satisfactory progress has been made. The rising generation of Chiefs, many of whom are educated, are not so ready as they should be to afford their own children the advantages of learning. This lack of example naturally acts as a general deterrent. In certain parts the effect is very noticeable as regards the proportion of children at school to the population.

5. With the exception of two undenominational schools the whole work of education in the country is carried on by the various mission societies, whose efforts are worthy of praise and encouragement. The style of teaching pursued and the subjects taught are suitable to the national requirements. The higher education offered at the centres for those advanced beyond a certain stage is appropriate, especially that by the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Morija, whose institution is affiliated to the Cape Colonial system for test examination purposes. The results of these examinations have proved the success of the education given at Morija.

6. One of the undenominational schools continues to work under prosperous circumstances at the village of the Chief Seiso Letsie, who established and maintains it creditably with Government aid.

7. Excellent accounts have been received of 14 boys placed by Government respectively at the Lovedale Institution in Cape Colony, and the Trappist Monastery in Natal. These boys are reported to have shown good capacity in their different spheres of labour and are all learning to qualify as useful tradesmen.

8 The industrial school supported by the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Quthing has a roll of 21 pupils, who are instructed in stone-cutting, bricklaying, building, and carpentering. They have now, under supervision of a missionary director, completed entirely, in a creditable manner, the building of a magistracy under contract from Government. The work, however, extended over an unusually long period, and leaves the impression on that account that the guidance of more master hands is required for supervision as well as for providing a larger area of instruction. A girls' industrial school with 20 pupils at Thaba Bosin, under management of the same society, is doing good, useful work.

9. The Industrial School at Roma has made a good beginning and promises well. At the present time boys are being instructed by European mechanics in saddlery, shoemaking, tailoring, bricklaying, carpentering, stone-cutting, turnery, and building. It is contemplated to increase the number of pupils and to extend the range of instruction so soon as further accommodation, now in course of construction, has been provided.

10. The improvement and extension of industrial systems in Basutoland is much to be desired, and is receiving on the part of Government the attention and encouragement due to it.

11. Had the Cape Educational Department been able to afford us the loan of an inspector, as suggested by the Secretary of State, it would have been of much advantage to have learnt the views of an independent critic. It was, however, not found practicable to do so last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner,
Cape Town.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 113.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 54.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1890.

LONDON:
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1890.

[C.—6221.–2.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
63	Labuan	1888
64	Grenada	"
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	"
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	"
71	British Honduras	"
72	British Guiana	"
73	Western Australia	"
74	Gold Coast	"
75	Sierra Leone	"
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	"
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"

No. 113.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No 54.]

Governor KERR to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
MY LORD, May 26th, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889, with the following report thereon :—

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

By Ordinance No. 2 of 1889, vessels arriving at any places in the Colony, other than Port Stanley, are liable to tonnage dues at the rate of 1*s.* per ton on the registered tonnage.

By Ordinance No. 10 of 1889, licenses are required to be taken for the sale of tobacco in the district of Stanley on payment of 2*l.* per annum, and in other parts of the Colony 1*l.* per annum.

There are no other changes in the sources of revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1889 was 8,628*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, being 376*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* less than the estimated amount, which was 9,005*l.*

Under several heads there was an excess, as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Licenses - - - -	28	0	0
Land revenue - - -	97	0	10
Sale of Government property - -	14	7	8
Interest on investments - -	302	13	0
	442	1	6

The deficiencies were as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs - - - -	398	4	7
Rents, exclusive of land - -	48	9	1
Fines, forfeitures, and fees - -	18	0	1
Postage - - - -	51	13	2
Miscellaneous receipts - -	38	15	3
Auction duty - - -	23	19	2
Sale of Crown lands - - -	240	0	0
	819	1	4

o 63920. Wt. 18975.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No aid was received from Imperial funds.

The expenditure in 1889 was 9,720*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, or 305*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* less than the estimated amount, which, including a supplemental vote of 982*l.* for salaries provisional and temporary (107*l.*), revenue services (800*l.*), and conveyance of mails (75*l.*), was 10,026*l.*

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December 1889, inclusive of cash in the Colonial chest, 3,496*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, and in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies 1,069*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, was 5,392*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*

This balance includes 2,000*l.*, which has been invested in Colonial securities on account of land sales and 1,000*l.* on account of surplus funds. The interest on these investments amounted in 1889 to 105*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

There is no Public Debt.

Public Works.

During the year 1889 the roads and drains in Stanley were still further extended and renewed.

James Street was formed, drained, and macadamized; new drains were made in parts of the Fitzroy and Ross Roads, and other streets and roads were partially renewed and repaired, at a cost of 431*l.* The dockyard tramway was completed and the sea-wall and jetty repaired at a cost of 81*l.* The lookout-mast was repaired, and a new time bell-mast and bell erected at a cost of 70*l.* The repairs of the gaol were finished, and the schools, barracks, Government House, and powder magazine were repaired and the court-house, police, and pilot's quarters were roofed with corrugated iron at a total cost of 857*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The repairs of the paddock fence cost 10*l.*, and the cost of peat cutting, which is a sub-head of the vote for works and buildings, cost 50*l.*, making the total expenditure on public works 1,499*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

In addition to the above, but under the head of "Revenue Services" is the cost of a pilot schooner, purchased and fitted out in England, and sailed out to the Colony. The actual cost of this vessel charged to the expenditure of 1889 was 688*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, which does not include the expense of sailing her to the Colony, (57*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*), where she did not arrive until early in 1890.

Legislation.

Fifteen Ordinances were passed in 1889.

No. 1.—"An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to Fraudulent Marks on Merchandise." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of February and came into operation on the same day.

No. 2.—"An Ordinance to amend the Customs Duties Consolidation Ordinance, 1882." This Ordinance was passed on 18th of February and came into operation on the same day.

No. 3.—"An Ordinance to make further Provision for the Protection of Women and Girls, the prevention of Outrages on Decency, and other purposes." This Ordinance was passed on the 9th of March and came into operation on the same day.

No. 4.—"An Ordinance relating to the Property of Married Women." This Ordinance was passed on the 9th of March and came into operation on the same day.

No. 5.—"An Ordinance to regulate the Attendance of Children at School." This Ordinance was passed on the 9th of March and came into operation on the same day.

No. 6.—"An Ordinance to amend the Laws relating to Jurors and Juries." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of May and came into operation on the same day.

No. 7.—"An Ordinance to abolish the office of Coroner in the Falkland Islands." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of May, but was not assented to by the Governor, and was afterwards disallowed by Her Majesty.

No. 8.—"An Ordinance to authorise the Prohibition of the export of certain Articles." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of May and came into operation on the same day.

No. 9.—"An Ordinance to provide for the Payment of Compensation in the respect of the Loss or Damage of Parcels in the Post." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of May and came into operation on the same day.

No. 10.—"An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Sale of Tobacco in the Colony of the Falkland Islands." This Ordinance was passed on the 18th of May and came into operation on the same day.

No. 11.—"An Ordinance to make further Provision for the Service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1889." This Ordinance was passed on the 13th of July and came into operation on the same day.

No. 12.—"An Ordinance to provide for the Service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1890" This Ordinance was passed on the 13th of July and came into operation on the same day.

No. 13.—"An Ordinance to amend the Quarantine Ordinance, 1875." This Ordinance was passed on the 11th of September and came into operation on the same day.

No. 14.—"An Ordinance to consolidate and further amend the Law relating to fraudulent Marks on Merchandise." This Ordinance was passed on the 27th of December and came into operation on the same day.

No. 15.—"An Ordinance to amend the Licensing Ordinance, 1882." This Ordinance was passed on the 27th of December and came into operation on the same day.

Legislative Council.

Mr. John James Felton, who was appointed on the 16th of July 1888, while absent from the Colony, to be a member of the Legislative Council arrived on the Colony and took his seat on the 18th of February 1889.

Mr. F. E. Cobb, who was absent on leave from the 19th of March 1888, returned to the Colony and resumed his seat on the 18th of February 1889.

Governor Kerr, C.M.G., left the Colony on leave of absence on the 31st of July, when Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks, Colonial Secretary and Administrator of the Government, became president of the Council to the end of the year.

Civil Establishment.

On the 31st of July Governor Kerr, C.M.G., proceeded to England on leave of absence and the administration of the Government for the rest of the year devolved upon Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks, the Colonial Secretary, who continued to perform the duties of his other offices.

Mr. John Campbell, the Government Pilot, left the Colony on special service relating to the purchase of a pilot schooner on 31st of July and did not return during the year; the duties of Pilot were performed during his absence by police constable B. Wilmer. Miss Sarah Preston was appointed Nurse and Midwife, and arrived in the Colony on the 16th of October.

Pensions.

There was no change under this head. The annual charge continued to be 235*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

Population.

There were 60 births during 1889, of which number 29 were males and 31 were females.

There were 16 marriages.

Twenty-four deaths were registered, of which number 17 were males and 7 were females.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Syncope - - - - -	1
Rupture of the apex of the heart - -	1
Affection of the lungs and heart - -	1
Phthisis - - - - -	3
Laryngitis - - - - -	1
Affection of the throat - - -	1
Cirrhosis of the liver - - -	1

Cerebral apoplexy - - - -	1
Cerebral disease - - - -	1
Paralysis - - - - -	1
Spinal hactinitis - - - -	1
Convulsions - - - - -	1
Enteric fever - - - -	4
Gastric disease - - - -	1
Bright's disease - - - -	1
Drowning - - - - -	2
Shot by accident - - - -	1
Exhaustion from exposure - - -	1
Total - - - -	24

The number of deaths in Stanley was 14, in the Darwin district three, in other parts of the East Falkland Island one, and in the West Falkland district, six. One of the deaths registered in Stanley was that of the master of a vessel which was lost at sea, who died of exhaustion soon after being landed; and one of those enumerated in the return from the West Falkland district was the supercargo of a merchant vessel from London who died of apoplexy.

The total number of deaths among the inhabitants was therefore 22, or about 11 per thousand.

The following are the reports on the sanitary condition of the Colony during 1889 by the Government medical officers:—

The Colonial Surgeon to the Colonial Secretary.

"SIR,

"I HAVE the honour to furnish a report on the sanitary condition of Stanley for the year 1889.

"In the first part of the year there were many cases of enteric fever of a severe type and several deaths occurred, but since then we have had immunity from that scourge and we have had no disease of an infectious or contagious nature.

"The climate is healthy and the people as a rule are in comfortable circumstances. Animal food is abundant and cheap, and the other necessaries of life easily obtained, beef and mutton being the staple food with the majority, and as they are both important factors, being highly nitrogenized and easily assimilated to the human economy, which, taken in conjunction with the other albuminoids in quantities, and the large amount of ozone gas supplying the respiratory system, it is not surprising that the people as a rule are strong and healthy; also the amount of iodine set free from the kelp acting as a prophylactic in many scrofulous diseases, and the rarity of phthisis and of many pulmonary complaints remarkable. It would surprise many of our physicians in England how that dread malady, phthisis, is warded off, and I believe in many instances completely buffeted, by the health-giving qualities peculiar to these islands. If many of those who suffer from the

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enervating influence of the climate at Monte Video and Buenos Ayres could be induced to seek the health-giving resort of the Falklands, their feeble frames would soon be braced and they would return with a stock of health.

"I have, &c.
"(Signed) S. HAMILTON,
"Colonial Surgeon."

The Assistant Colonial Surgeon to the Colonial Secretary.
(West Falkland District.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour of presenting my annual report for the year 1889.

2. There has been a total absence of zymotic disease; this I attribute, not to the increased healthiness of the place by improved sanitation, as it would be almost impossible to get a healthier place than the West Falklands, but to the fact that none has been imported from Stanley or elsewhere.

3. I have calculated the death rate for 1889 to be 15 per 1,000 and the birth rate 57·5 per 1,000. The death-rate is higher than it ought to be, and, this year at least, is no true guide to the healthiness of the place, as two deaths were from violence, one from drowning and the other from shooting, another one was that of a master mariner belonging to the "Grandholm," from England, who died suddenly at Spring Point from apoplexy. The fourth was that of a man from Stanley, who died shortly after landing in Beaver Island, the cause of death being unknown. Two other deaths occurred in the West Falklands, one a baby from convulsions, and the other an adult from meningitis, which was most certainly not tubercular.

4. The rate of infant mortality for 1889 will be represented by the figures 43 per 1,000; this is very low, as the annual rate of infant mortality for England and Wales for the 10 years 1871–1880 was 149 per 1,000.

5. Since I have been in the Falklands, about two years now, I have not seen a case of pneumonia or rheumatic fever, and no case of broncho-pneumonia in children. Considering the small number of children here, there is a great deal of rickets among them, and one or two severe cases as bad as any I have seen in London, and yet none of these children have broncho-pneumonia, so common and fatal at home.

6. The absence of pneumonia and rheumatic fever are striking, considering the amount of exposure the inhabitants of these islands are subject to. They are always getting wet through, and hardly ever change their clothes, and yet they never get either pneumonia or rheumatic fever. The men suffer a good deal from that chronic intractable rheumatism in the muscles of the back, and other forms of muscular rheumatism, but never from rheumatic fever with its disastrous consequences.

7. Chronic indigestion among the adults is the bane of these islands; it principally occurs in the form of "heartburn" and "waterbrash," and is due to the enormous quantities of coffee

and tea consumed in the very strongest forms, to the indigestible character of the bread they eat, and to the ignorance of most of the women of the most rudimentary laws of cooking.

8. With regard to the rising generation the remarks I made last year are again applicable this year; and even still more so.

No deaths among the Fuegians in Keppel Island have been reported to me this year; they certainly seem in fairly good condition. The improvements I suggested as to the ventilation of the Fugians' sleeping room have been carried out, and a portion of the house has been set apart as a hospital, and for the purpose of isolating the cases of phthisis which may occur. Much praise is due to Mr. Whaits, the resident superintendent, for the careful way he teaches them the very first step toward civilisation,—cleanliness.

10. With regard to the statistics placed at the end of this report, they are not only useful for the showing the manner in which the population is distributed over the West Falklands, but in other ways as well. Their usefulness will increase with time, when different years can be compared with each other.

11. The healthy condition of the West Falklands is no doubt due to the splendid air and the abundance of water.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. GOING,
Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

Name of Station.	No. of Houses.	Adults.		Children.		Births.		Deaths.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Fox Bay (East)	9	14	9	2	6	—	1	—	—
2. Fox Bay (West)	5	10	2	6	2	—	2	—	—
3. Spring Point	5	11	3	5	—	—	—	1	—
4. Port Stephens and Port Edgar	9	25	7	5	9	1	4	1	—
5. Weddell Island	3	15	3	1	—	1	—	1	—
6. Beaver Island	3	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
7. New Island	2	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	—
8. West Point Island	2	2	3	3	—	1	—	—	—
9. Carcass Island	3	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
10. Saunders Island	3	11	2	3	1	1	—	—	—
11. Keppel Island	5	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
12. Pebble Island	5	10	5	3	3	—	2	1	—
13. Golding Island	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Chartres River	6	12	5	6	2	—	1	—	—
15. Roy Cove	8	25	9	5	12	—	2	—	1
16. Hill Cove and Shallow Bay	10	19	11	8	6	3	—	—	—
17. Port Howard	16	33	14	18	7	3	—	—	—
Total	95	212	80	71	48	11	12	5	1

Summary for West Falkland District.

Number of stations - - - -	17
Number of shepherds' houses - -	32
Total number of houses - - -	95

Number of adult inhabitants, 212 males, 80 females.
Number of children, 71 males, 48 females.
Total number of inhabitants, 411.

Visits by Medical Officer during 1889 *from Fox Bay:—*

Spring Point,	4 hours' ride	- -	5
Port Edgar,	6 „	- - -	2
Port Howard,	7 „	- - -	7
Port Stephens,	9½ „	- - -	5
Hill Cove,	7 „	- - -	11
Shallow Bay,	10 „	- - -	8
Chartres River,	3½ „	- - -	17
Roy Cove	8 „	- - -	7
Weddell Island	12 hours' journey	- -	4
Pebble Island,	1 day's journey	- -	1
			67

The total population of the Colony can only be approximately stated. On the 31st of December 1888 it was assumed to be 1,890, and on the 31st of December 1889 it may be stated as 1,930.

Education.

The Colonial chaplain, who is the Inspector of the Government Schools, has furnished the following Education Report for 1889:—

The Colonial Chaplain to the Colonial Secretary.

SIR,

THE routine laid down on the regulations for the Government Schools in Stanley has been carried out during the year.

The School Attendance Ordinance has worked fairly well, but a private school having been opened in Stanley, it is impossible for the schoolmaster or school inspector to know whether all the children of school age are attending or not. A return of the children attending school and the number of their attendances should be furnished by both Government and private schools in Stanley to the Colonial Secretary once every fortnight, as is done, I believe, in England.

The total number of names on the roll of the senior school during the year was:—boys, 70; girls, 48; ditto of the infant school, was boys, 61; girls, 80.

The number of children on the rolls at the end of the year, and the average attendance in both schools was as follows for 1888 and 1889 :—

In the Senior School

	Number on the Roll.		Average Attendance.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1888 - - -	47	48	36	28
1889 - - -	51	26	35·5	20

In the Infant School.

	Number on the Roll.		Average Attendance.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1888 - - -	46	63	26·1	29·1
1889 - - -	36	48	26·4	30

The increased grant of 24*l.* per annum made by the Secretary of State has been expended on the appointment of an additional teacher to teach the girls sewing in the senior school, which circumstance will much increase the efficiency of the girls' education but ought to be only a provisional arrangement until there can be separate schools for boys and girls, the one as now taught by the schoolmaster, and the other by a trained schoolmistress. Many girls would continue at school much longer than they now do, as parents have a most decided objection to sending their girls to a mixed school.

There are only two other schools on the islands, viz.: a school opened in Stanley by the Roman Catholic priest during the past year, and one supported by the Falkland Islands Company in Darwin.

Nothing further is being done for the education of the children scattered throughout the islands, although they comprise nearly one half of the children in the Falkland Islands.

In November 1889 I visited the West Falkland Island and nine adjacent Islands and examined 62 children ; all, with the exception

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of four, had made some progress during the year under their parents' tuition.

During the summer months a junior assistant teacher in the infant school is very necessary, and this year we are again supplying the need by private subscription.

I most respectfully recommend :—

1. That 6*l.* per annum should be granted towards a junior assistant in the infant school during the six summer months when the attendance of young children is large.
2. That a return of the attendance at all schools in Stanley should be made once a fortnight to the Colonial Secretary.
3. That the advisability of having separate schools for the senior boys and girls be taken into consideration.
4. That inquiries be made as regards the education of children in other Colonies with a view to meeting the educational difficulties of these islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LOWTHER E. BRANDON, M.A.,
Colonial Chaplain.

The Reverend P. J. Diamond, Roman Catholic priest, opened a school in Stanley during the year. The average number on the roll was 41, of which 22 were boys and 19 were girls. The average attendance was 30, or 16 boys and 14 girls, and the numbers were rapidly increasing.

No religious doctrines are taught or observed in the Government schools, the course of instruction being entirely secular in its character.

Several children of Protestant parents attend Mr. Diamond's school, in which he states that no religious subjects are taught.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1889 was 55,716*l.*, in 1888 it was 54,008*l.*, and in 1887 it was 66,785*l.*

The value of the exports in 1889 was 116,102*l.*, in 1888 it was 88,743*l.*, and in 1887 it was 107,995*l.*

The following table represents the relative value of the several articles of export during the six years ending with 1889 :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wool	74,625	82,113	72,998	80,065	76,573	100,540
Tallow	13,313	3,360	3,640	4,475	2,799	3,993
Sheep skins	5,686	5,125	3,813	5,039	5,932	5,264
Hides	4,222	4,727	1,850	515	906	1,001
Old metal	196	350	—	70	—	80
Sealskins	191	—	—	12	388	254

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Seal oil	125	—	—	—	—	—
Hair, bones, and bone ash	62	93	8	—	29	9
Live sheep	2,720	2,078	10,949	3,314	1,118	4,467
Live horses	150	—	—	—	—	—
Frozen mutton	—	—	15,070	13,882	—	—
Live geese	—	—	18	—	—	—
Specie	—	—	—	623	675	298
Articles imported. Sheep dip	—	—	—	—	205	—
Groceries and oilman's stores	—	—	—	—	16	48
Clothing	—	—	—	—	—	15
Spirits	—	—	—	—	—	31
Malt liquor	—	—	—	—	5	—
Building materials	—	—	—	—	25	102
Empty bags	—	—	—	—	72	—
Total exports	101,338	97,846	108,946	107,995	88,743	116,102

Shipping.

Thirty-one sailing vessels arrived in the Colony in 1889. The tonnage of the whole was 12,241, and the crews numbered 365.

Of these, 23 were engaged in the trade of the Colony, and they arrived at the following places:—

East Falkland	Port Stanley	9
	San Carlos	1
West Falkland	Fox Bay	4
	White Rock Bay	1
	Shallow Bay	3
	Hill Cove	1
	West Point	1
	Roy Cove	2
	Weddell Island	1
	Total	23

Of the remaining eight, one arrived with her cargo of coal on fire, one to land a shipwrecked crew, and six to repair damages occasioned by storms at sea.

Thirteen steamships of the Kosmos line arrived at Stanley during the year, 12 of them in pursuance of the monthly mail contract, and one extra vessel for cargo.

The steamship "Grandholm" from London arrived at Fox Bay in the West Falkland with a general cargo for several sheep stations in the West Falkland and adjacent islands, and took away a cargo of wool, without clearing at the customs.

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The steamship "Schleswig" arrived at Port Stanley from London with a general cargo and loaded at "San Salvador" on the East Falkland 2,278 live sheep for London.

Her Majesty's ships "Ruby," "Rifleman," "Flamingo," and "Swallow," of the south-east coast of America squadron, visited the islands during the year, as did also the United States ship of war "Swatara," bearing the flag of Rear Admiral Gillis, and the Russian ship of war "Nayézdnik" which called at Stanley for provisions on her homeward voyage from the China station.

Criminal Statistics.

There was no case for hearing in the Supreme Court either on the civil or criminal side during 1889. The court has been practically closed since 1887.

31 persons were summarily convicted by the Police Magistrate during the year. Of these eight were refractory seamen for offences under the Merchant Shipping Acts, one for assault, one for smuggling cigars, two for breaches of the licensing law, two for creating disturbance, two for abusive language, and 15 for drunkenness.

These were all punished by fines except the refractory seamen, who were imprisoned for a short period.

The gaol was only occupied for one week during the year.

Savings Banks and Friendly Societies.

The Government Savings Bank established under the provisions of Ordinance No. 1 of 1888, was opened for business on the 2nd of April in that year, and on the 31st of December following the number of depositors was 52, and the amount remaining deposited, after the withdrawal of 149*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, was 8,258*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

On the 31st of December 1889 the number of depositors was 101, and the amount remaining deposited after the withdrawal during the year of 3,267*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, was 17,218*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

The amount invested in Imperial and Colonial Government securities was 15,000*l.*, the revenue from which on the 31st of December amounted to 302*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, but the amount of revenue actually received from interest on investments does not represent the total amount accruing from that source, as part of the dividends payable during the first six months of 1890 should properly be treated as an asset of 1889.

The expense of management for the year was 80*l.*, and the amount of interest paid to depositors during the year was 256*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* The rate of interest is fixed at 2½ per cent.

The rapid progress and success of this useful and beneficial institution is very gratifying.

There is a Friendly Society called the "Stanley Benefit Club," which was established in 1859 as a burial club and for the relief of its members during sickness.

The receipts of the club in 1889 amounted to 113*l.* 7*s.* and its payments, to 11 recipients, for sick and burial fees, to 29*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

The number of the members was 116 and the capital was 851*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

General Remarks.

The condition of the Colony was in every respect prosperous during the year 1889. The value of the exports exceeded that of any previous record by upwards of 7,000*l.*, being 116,102*l.* The highest previous record was that of the year 1886, which was 108,946*l.*, an exceptional year, in which the exports were increased to the amount of 15,070*l.*, by the exportation of frozen mutton, an enterprise which also added 13,882*l.* to the exports of 1887, and then collapsed, from injudicious management.

The value of the wool exported in 1889 was 100,540*l.*, or 23,266*l.* more than the average of the five years immediately preceding.

An agreement was entered into during the year between a number of the sheep farmers and a mercantile house in London for the revival of the export of frozen mutton, which will come into operation in 1890, with every prospect of a successful issue.

An experiment was tried in 1889, in carrying live sheep from the Colony to the London market. The steamer "Schleswig" took on board from Mr. Felton's sheep station at San Salvador, in the East Falkland Island, 2,278 live sheep, and sailed on the 26th of March, and after stopping at Saint Vincent to coal, arrived at Deptford on the 27th of April, but as the necessary sanitary certificate had not been procured at the Falkland Islands the vessel was not allowed to take the sheep to London. They were killed at Deptford. It was found that 236 had died during the voyage, and that the survivors had lost weight on an average of 14 lbs. each.

They were purchased in the Falklands for 9*s.* each and the carcases sold for 30*s.* each, which was considerably less than they would have been worth had they been taken alive to the London market.

It is not known whether or not there is any probability of the experiment being repeated.

On the whole the prosperity of the Colony, if tested by the value of its exports, in comparison with the number of its inhabitants is, I believe, unequalled in any of Her Majesty's possessions, as it represents a sum of 60*l.* per capitum in produce, unaided by manufacture.

The well-being of the inhabitants is evidenced by the fact that the sums deposited in the Government Savings Bank average 9*l.* per capitum.

The winter of 1889 was protracted, and the spring was late and wet, but the sheep were healthier, and there was less loss from disease, especially among the lambs, than for several previous years. The clip of wool was heavy, and there was every prospect of continued and increasing prosperity.

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The revenue of the Government was less than was expected, particularly in the customs receipts, which has been accounted for by a temporary check to the importation of dutiable goods as a result of the stocks of two separate mercantile establishments having been thrown into one by the absorption of the old firm of Messrs. J. M. Dean and Sons into that of the Falkland Islands Company.

The expenditure was abnormally increased by the necessity for purchasing a new pilot schooner, but the public finances of the Colony continue to be in a very satisfactory condition.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. KERR,

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 116.

FIJI.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 79.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1890.

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1890.

[C.—6221.–5.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
137	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	—
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889

No. 116.

FIJI.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 79.]

Sir J. B. Thurston to Lord Knutsford.

Government House, Suva, Fiji,
August 27, 1890.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward herewith a report upon the Blue Book of 1889 by the Assistant Colonial Secretary Mr. James Stewart.

I have, &c.
(Signed) John B. Thurston.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Report on the Blue Book, Year 1889.

I.—Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

The following alterations have been made during the year, viz.:—

(1.) *Native Taxes.*

The assessment of native taxes payable during the year was increased by 200*l.* over that of last year. This increase was made on the assessment of the province of Colo West, where it was found that the tax was unduly low in proportion to the resources of the province, and in comparison with the taxes of other provinces.

The total assessment of the 17 provinces (including Rotumah) for the year amounted to 18,980*l.*

(2.) *Public Hospital Charges.*

The fee for European patients was, by resolution of the Legislative Council, reduced from a uniform rate of 10*s.* per diem to the following scale, viz.:—

In general ward - - -	5*s.* per diem.
In private room - - -	7*s.* 6*d.* per diem.

The fee for half-caste patients was fixed at 4*s.* per diem.

The fee for indentured labourers sent to hospital on the recommendation of a district medical officer was reduced to 1*s.*

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per diem. Without such recommendation the fee will be as before, viz., 2*s.* per diem, which is also the rate charged for unindentured labourers.

The Fijian community contributes annually a sum of five hundred pounds (500*l.*) to the public hospital, which entitles any native to treatment in the hospital who may be sent in for that purpose by the local authorities.

(3.) *Fees of Court in Bankruptcy.*

By the Bankruptcy Ordinance, No. 16, of 1889, which is based on the existing Imperial Act, a new scale of fees of court in bankruptcy proceedings has been fixed.

II.—Revenue and Expenditure.

In the past year the revenue has again exceeded the expenditure, the balance in favour of revenue being 6,011*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*

The estimated revenue for the past year was 63,960*l.* The amount actually received was 63,722*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* The estimate of revenue was exceeded on all the important items, such as Customs dues, native taxes, and general licenses; but from various causes the receipts fell short of the estimate under the heads of "Warehouse and Wharfage Dues," "Pilotage, Light, and Shipping Dues," (one of the steamship companies having, by way of subsidy, been exempted from the payment of these charges,) "Fees, Fines, and Forfeitures," &c.

The expenditure was estimated to amount to 57,489*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* The actual expenditure was 57,710*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* The excess of actual over estimated expenditure arose through the occurrence of uncontemplated items of expenditure, such as quarantine, refund of salary tax, &c., and which amounted in the aggregate to over 3,000*l.*

In view of these facts the surplus of revenue over expenditure must be regarded as eminently satisfactory.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure and the accruing surplus or deficit during each of the past four years :—

Statement showing the Revenue and Expenditure, Surplus or Deficit, of each Year from 1886 *to* 1889 *inclusive.*

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.			Surplus.	Deficit.
		Establishments.	Exclusive.	Total.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1886 -	64,574 1 1	38,407 2 6	39,726 5 8	78,133 8 2	—	13,559 7 1
1887 -	64,916 2 9	33,499 7 8	39,651 5 5	73,150 13 1	—	8,234 10 4
1888 -	65,018 14 8	25,009 3 11	33,983 16 6	58,993 0 5	6,025 14 3	—
1889 -	63,722 0 6	22,219 0 10	35,491 1 5	57,710 2 3	6,011 18 3	—

Revenue.

The following statement shows—

(1.) The amount of revenue collected under each head of receipt for the years 1888 and 1889.

(2.) The increase and decrease under each head of revenue of the year 1889 as compared with the year 1888.

(3.) For each of the past four years, the proportion per centum of revenue accruing under each head.

REVENUE :—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing (1) Amount of Revenue, Years 1889 and 1888, (2) Increase and Decrease, (3) Proportion per Centum under each Head, Years 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886.

Head of Receipt.	Revenue Collected.		1889. Increase over 1888.	1889. Decrease from 1888.	Proportion per Centum of Revenue accruing under each Head.			
	1889.	1888.			1889.	1888.	1887.	1886.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				
Customs dues	27,131 8 3	24,571 12 4	2,559 15 11	—	42·58	37·79	38·00	45·45
Warehouse and wharfage dues	2,822 3 2	3,181 4 4	—	359 1 2	4·43	4·89	4·95	5·58
Pilotage, light, and shipping	1,423 17 5	1,616 18 9	—	193 1 4	2·23	2·48	2·34	2·79
General licenses	3,561 13 6	3,617 4 6	—	55 11 0	5·59	5·56	5·65	6·13
Native taxes	17,184 19 4	19,652 3 9	—	2,467 4 5	26·97	30·23	25·29	14·65
Fees, fines, and forfeitures	1,419 18 9	1,698 17 4	—	278 18 7	2·23	2·61	2·94	3·71
Postal dues	1,896 17 1	1,778 11 7	118 5 6	—	2·98	2·74	3·84	3·12
Stamps	1,440 8 4	1,231 4 6	209 3 10	—	2·26	1·89	1·49	2·01
Hospitals	1,642 12 9	1,678 12 4	—	35 19 7	2·58	2·58	4·12	3·40
Freights	71 2 0	38 4 0	32 18 0	—	·11	·06	·09	·07
Miscellaneous	3,479 3 4	3,681 5 8	—	202 2 4	5·46	5·66	6·08	6·94
Fees on Crown grants and surveys	159 11 6	416 9 3	—	256 17 9	·25	·64	1·03	1·41
Land sales	63 15 3	142 4 0	—	78 8 9	·10	·22	·81	1·36
Suva water rate	853 13 0	720 4 2	133 8 10	—	1·34	1·11	·82	Nil.
Registration fees	303 11 10	380 3 0	—	76 11 2	·48	·58	·38	·51
Native industrial school	—	99 11 0	—	99 11 0	Nil.	·15	·44	·43
Receipts, labour depôt	267 5 0	514 4 2	—	246 19 2	·42	·79	1·69	1·78
Repayment of former advances for returning Polynesian immigrants	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.	·01	·53
Total	63,722 0 6	65,018 14 8	3,053 12 1	4,350 6 3	—	—	—	—

Custom Dues.

There has been a considerable increase (2,559*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*) in the amount of revenue from customs dues. This is in part the result of a slight alteration made in the customs tariff in the middle of the year 1888, and partly arises from an increase in the consumption of dutiable goods.

The ratio which during each of the past four years the amount of import duties collected has borne to the total value of imports has been as follows:—

1886 - -	12·72	per cent. ad valorem.
1887 - -	13·50	„ „
1888 - -	13·41	„ „
1889 - -	14·32	„ „

This ratio must be regarded as comparatively low, more especially when it is remembered that, as shown in the foregoing comparative table, the customs import duties form 40 per centum of the colonial revenue.

Native Taxes.

This is the second chief item of revenue, and constitutes the direct contribution of the native community to the resources of the Colonial Government. The amount received during the year 1889 under this head was less by 2,467*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* than the corresponding receipt of the previous year. This difference arose from the fact that in the year 1888 a considerable amount of deficits standing over from the year 1887 was received, whilst in the year 1889 no large balances remained owing.

It was believed that owing to the hurricane experienced in the beginning of the year the contribution of native taxes would not exceed 15,000*l.*, that is to say, 2,000*l.* less than the estimate, but the amount credited to revenue was17,184*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*

The total amount actually received was 22,117*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, but refunds, amounting in the aggregate to 5,152*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, were made to provinces that had contributed more than their assessment.

The total amount of refunds made in this way has been:—

	£	s.	d.
For the 11 years from 1877 to 1887, inclusive - - -	33,017	10	9
Year 1888 - - -	7,293	3	4
Year 1889 - - -	5,152	16	4
Total for the 13 years since the initiation of the taxation system - - -	45,463	10	5

The items of actual taxation with the revenue accruing thereunder are as follows, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Custom dues - - -	27,131	8	3
General licences - - -	3,561	13	6
Native taxes - - -	17,184	19	4
Stamp duties - - -	1,440	8	4
Total - -	49,318	9	5

The proportion of the total revenue of the Colony raised by taxation during the year is thus seen to have been 77 per centum.

This taxation is equal to seven shillings and elevenpence (7*s.* 11*d.*) per head of the total population.

The amount of revenue derived from other sources than taxation amounts in the aggregate to 14,403*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, which is equal to two shillings and fourpence (2*s.* 4*d.*) per head of the population.

The total revenue of the Colony is thus equal to nearly ten shillings and threepence (10*s.* 3*d.*) per head of the population.

Expenditure.

The following statement exhibits in a comparative form the xpenditure of the Colony during the past two years:—

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Colonial Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1889.	Expenditure, 1888.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
ESTABLISHMENTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
The Governor - -	2,105 10 0	2,143 3 10	—	37 13 10	
Colonial Secretary's Office.	702 10 0	1,015 12 0	—	313 2 0	
Audit - -	610 10 10	710 0 0	—	99 9 2	
Printing Office -	340 0 0	340 0 0	—	—	
Cadets - -	1,082 3 8	1,190 16 8	—	108 13 0	
Receiver General's Office	1,000 0 0	900 0 0	100 0 0	—	
Customs, Suva -	1,357 0 0	1,357 0 0	—	—	
Customs, Levuka -	423 0 0	423 0 0	—	—	
Harbours - -	372 10 0	347 10 0	25 0 0	—	
Lighthouse keepers -	—	306 8 2	—	306 8 2	Lighthouse keepers are included in Harbour Office, exclusive of Establishments. in the year 1889.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1889.	Expenditure, 1888.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Immigration	710 0 0	1,191 18 11	—	481 18 11	
Lands	822 2 5	552 10 0	—	207 17 7	
Surveys and works		477 10 0			
Postal	602 10 0	567 11 1	34 18 11	—	
Medical	1,324 18 10	1,563 3 0	—	238 4 2	
Judicial	5,171 16 4	5,700 19 2	—	529 2 10	
Registrar-General	255 0 0	42 10 0	212 10 0	—	
Police	608 0 0	981 14 5	—	373 14 5	
Armed native constabulary.	469 14 5	429 14 4	40 0 1	—	
Prisons	342 10 0	674 9 9	—	331 19 9	
Government Store	233 15 0	233 15 0	—	—	
Provincial	3,685 9 4	3,859 17 7	—	174 8 3	
	22,219 0 10	25,009 3 11	412 9 0	3,202 12 1	
EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.					
Pensions	250 0 0	191 12 8	58 7 4	—	
Judicial	1,290 16 8	921 18 3	368 18 5	—	
Colonial Secretary	3,624 16 0	3,234 9 2	390 6 10	—	
Medical	481 15 9	452 2 5	29 13 4	—	
Suva Hospital	932 17 4	843 12 0	89 5 4	—	
Lunatic Asylum	322 8 0	360 3 1	—	37 15 1	
Rent	512 9 2	504 7 11	8 1 3	—	
Public works	2,162 1 0	1,648 17 4	513 3 8	—	
Police	465 1 9	87 14 0	377 7 9	—	
Prisons	598 13 5	297 9 2	301 4 3	—	
Armed native constabulary.	153 16 0	102 2 7	51 13 5	—	
Postal	946 8 4	763 12 6	182 15 10	—	
Treasury	3,061 7 6	3,376 14 6	—	315 7 0	
Public debt	8,971 10 0	9,019 8 4	—	47 18 4	
Harbour Office	1,076 14 8	531 12 8	545 2 0	—	Includes light-house keepers in 1889.
Education	921 4 9	985 10 5	—	64 5 8	
Stores	47 10 6	82 11 10	—	35 1 4	
Provincial	350 18 2	344 12 5	6 5 9	—	
General transport	840 19 11	220 3 8	620 16 3	—	
Immigration	5,143 18 2	4,697 12 9	446 5 5	—	
Miscellaneous	3,335 14 4	5,317 8 10	—	1,981 14 6	
	35,491 1	33,983 16 6	3,989 6 10	2,482 1 11	
Establishments	22,219 0 10	25,009 3 11	412 9 0	3,202 12 1	
Total	57,710 2 3	58,993 0 5	4,401 15 10	5,684 14 0	

Fiji.

The total expenditure (57,710*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*), it will be seen, has been reduced from that of the preceding year by 1,282*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*

This reduction was principally effected under the head of "Establishments," and resulted in part from the amalgamation and abolition of offices effected in the middle of the previous year, and partly also from the existence of vacancies (as in the medical staff) which were not filled till towards the close of the year.

The expenditure on "Establishments," moreover, appears in the foregoing statement after deduction of the special tax on the salaries of civil servants. The total deduction made by the imposition of this tax during the year 1889 was 2,473*l.*, whereof a sum of 573*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* was refunded to officers at the end of the first half year. This refund, however, which was actually part of the cost of establishments, is included in the statement under the heading "Miscellaneous."

It may be mentioned that a second refund of one quarter of the special salary tax deducted during the year was made in the beginning of the year 1890, from which date also the tax was discontinued. The total amount which has thus, since the imposition of the official salary tax in the beginning of 1887, been saved to the revenue is 6,746*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

The expenditure under "exclusive of establishments" is greater by 1,507*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* than that of the year 1888. There was an increased expenditure on public works, on light-house repairs, on general transport (owing to the introduction of six officers from England), and on immigration; an unforeseen expenditure was incurred on repairs to the despatch boat "Clyde," on quarantine, and on the refund of one-fourth of the tax on official salaries.

With regard to the charge on immigration it may be here explained that, in order to provide the cost of the return passage of Indian immigrant labourers, the general revenue puts aside a sum of 15*s.* per annum for every adult immigrant introduced, during the first 10 years after his introduction. The amount put aside for this purpose in 1889 was 4,854*l.* 15*s.*

The total expenditure of the Colony is equal to nearly nine shillings and threepence (9*s.* 3*d.*) per head of the population.

The ratio which the expenditure has borne to the value of exports in each of the past four years has been as follows:—

1886 - - - - -	1 to 3·6
1887 - - - - -	1 „ 3 8
1888 - - - - -	1 „ 6·4
1889 - - - - -	1 „ 6·3

III.—Municipalities and Local Public Bodies.

The only local bodies having authority to levy rates are the town and school boards of Suva and Levuka.

The gross revenue and expenditure of these boards for the past year have been as follows:—

Board.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Suva Town Board - - -	1,468 19 2	1,386 5 0
„ School Board - - -	635 18 0	628 16 10
Levuka Town Board - -	726 12 0	715 7 1
„ School Board - -	567 12 11	556 9 4
Total - -	3,399 2 1	3,286 18 3

The amount contributed by Government to these bodies during the year was:—

	£ s. d.
To the town boards - - -	250 0 0
To the school boards - -	476 10 0
Total - -	726 10 0

These public bodies have no borrowing powers, and there is consequently no debt.

IV.—Public Works.

The following expenditure on public works was incurred during the year, viz.:—

	£ s. d.
Roads, bridges, and culverts -	437 1 8
Wharf at Suva and Levuka (repairs and upkeep) - - -	494 0 2
Repairs and additions - -	786 11 11
Repairs to light-houses and lightships	116 2 7
Total - -	1,833 16 4

The following statement shows the amount of contingent expenditure on public works during each year since the foundation

of the Colony. The annual cost of the establishment is not included in these figures.

	£	s.	d.
1875 - - - -	2,635	7	1
1876 - - - -	5,335	13	3
1877 - - - -	4,023	11	8
1878 - - - -	3,491	6	1
1879 - - - -	2,292	3	6
1880 - - - -	1,981	19	9
1881 - - - -	2,454	12	9
1882 - - - -	8,2 3	3	9
1883 - - - -	5,992	4	1
1884 - - - -	13,896	7	3
1885 - - - -	7,925	13	9
1886 - - - -	1,666	4	4
1887 - - - -	4,590	19	0
1888 - - - -	1,648	17	4
1889 - - - -	2,162	1	0
Total for 15 years' contingent expenditure - -	68,310	4	7

The loan was drawn on to the extent, in all, of 26,246*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* to meet this expenditure.

It may also be assumed that the public works expenditure of the years 1875, 1876, 1877, and 1878, was defrayed from the imperial grant-in-aid. This amount and that drawn from the loan make together 41,732*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, which shows that the sum of 26,577*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* has been within the past 11 years expended from general revenue on public works in addition to expenditure on the establishments.

V.—PUBLIC DEBT.

The following statement shows the public debt at the end of the year 1889:—

Public Debt.

Debts.	To whom due.	Rate of Interest.	When incurred and for what Cause.	State Provisions for Payment of Interest or Sinking Fund, and refer to Enactments by which it is made.	Amount of Original Debt.	Amount repaid.
£ s. d. 104,025 7 11	Imperial Government	Without interest	Imperial grant in aid of local revenue during the two years succeeding annexation. There was defrayed therefrom the expenses incident to the cession of the Colony, the establishment of British Government therein, and the returning to their homes in the New Hebrides and Solomon Groups the immigrant labourers introduced before annexation.	To be repaid when the circumstances of the Colony will permit.	£ s. d. 104,025 7 11	£ s. d. Nil.
11,364 6 7	Do.	Do.	Imperial grant in payment of compensation to German subjects in respect of certain of their claims to land in Fiji disallowed by the Lands Commission, *plus* expenses connected with the Mixed Commission appointed to inquire into the disallowance of these claims.	Do. do.	11,364 6 7	Nil.
135,700 0 0	Debentures - -	4½ per cent. -	Under Ordinance XIII. of 1880. For general purposes and to pay debts incurred by late Government. Expended as follows :— 1. Payment of liabilities of the late so-called Government of the Fiji Islands - £100,000 0 0 2. Suva works - - 19,966 15 7 3. Lighthouses - - 93 14 7 4. Coolie immigration - 13,753 13 2 5. Levuka pier - - 1,289 2 10 6. Expenses of the Commission appointed by the Imperial Government to inquire into claims to land - 10,000 0 0 7. Balance transferred (to public account to assist in meeting further expenditure on lighthouses - 4,896 13 10 £150,000 0 0	Half-yearly appropriation out of the general revenue and assets of the Colony of a sum equal to one half-year's interest on the whole of the debentures previously issued, including any that may have been redeemed; and a similar half-yearly appropriation by way of a sinking fund of 10*s.* per cent. on the total nominal amount of all debentures issued on or before the first day of each half-year, including any which may have been redeemed. The amount is drawn by the Crown Agents. Ordinance No. XIII. of 1880 provides for these payments.	150,000 0 0	14,300 0 0
251,089 14 6						

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The total nominal amount of public debt at 31st December 1889 including the Imperial grants-in-aid, was 251,089*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, which is equal to 2*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* per head of the population.

It is to be regretted that the Colony has received but little real benefit from either of the two items that stand at its actual debit.

The Imperial grant-in-aid of 104,025*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* was swallowed up by expenses incurred in the establishment of Government immediately after annexation and in doing justice to the great number of Polynesians that had been introduced into the group as immigrant labourers previous to annexation, and had not been paid off and returned home.

The second Imperial grant of 11,364*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*, nominally in aid of the Colony, comprises payments made by Her Majesty's Government to that of Germany, in conformity with the recommendations of a joint Commission appointed to enquire into the complaints of certain German subjects in respect of claims to land.

The payments so made, together with attendant expenses, have been nominally charged to the Colony, but it is understood that the charge will be borne by the Imperial Government.

Two-thirds of the loan of 150,000*l.* was absorbed in paying the liabilities of the late so-called Government of the Fiji Islands.

It would, therefore, be more correct to estimate the actual public debt of the Colony at 50,000*l.*, that being the extent to which the Colony has really benefited by borrowing.

The amount actually repaid by the Colony by way of redemption of debentures was at—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
31st December 1889 - -	14,300	0	0
The amount which up to that date had been paid as interest on debentures, was - - -	57,687	3	3
Total -	71,987	3	3

It will thus be seen that the Colony has already paid back more than the amount of the actual benefit received from the loan.

It will be seen, under the heading of Public Works, that the general revenue has also expended 26,577*l.* on public works within the past 11 years, irrespective of the cost of the establishment.

The floating indebtedness of the Colony at 31st December 1889, amounted to 29,139*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, being less by 19,495*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* than the corresponding amount at 31st December 1887.

The following statement of assets and liabilities shows the position of the Colony at 31st December 1889 :—

The excess of liabilities over assets was 259,446*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The corresponding figures at 31st December 1888, were 267,026*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* at 31st December 1887, 279,148*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*

The reduction of liabilities absolutely effected wtihin the past two years is thus seen to amount to 19,702*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* in addition to the due payment of interest on public debt.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December 1889.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Advances to be repaid to the Colony				73	10	0
Amount due to the Immigration Department				6,086	5	3
Advance from public account against Suva works advance (Ordinance No. XX. of 1882 and No. XVIII. of 1888)				11,437	17	3
Fund for the redemption of the debentures loan, 150,000*l.* (under Ordinance No. XIII. of 1880) on the 31st December 1889				28	7	10
PUBLIC TRUST ACCOUNT—						
Fixed deposits at interest	22,167	7	6			
Bank of New Zealand, credit balance, 31st December 1888	1,137	18	8			
				23,305	6	2
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' INTRODUCTION FUND—						
Fixed deposits at interest	7,200	0	0			
Bank of New Zealand, credit balance, 31st December 1888	530	14	4			
Balance with emigration agent, Calcutta, 30th September 1888	260	19	2			
				7,991	13	6
INTESTATE AND VACANT ESTATES' ACCOUNT—						
Fixed deposits at interest	2,750	0	0			
Bank of New Zealand credit balance, 31st December 1888	579	16	1			
				3,329	16	1
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' RETURN-PASSAGE'S FUND—(Under Ordinance XIII. of 1882—						
Fixed deposits at interest	15,969	18	10			
Bank of New Zealand, credit balance, 31st December 1889	337	3	0			
				16,307	1	10
Carried forward				68,559	17	11

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amounts in deposit accounts and due by the Government				268	10	9
CAPITAL SUM, proceeds of the sale of native lands, on which interest at 5 per cent. per annum is paid by the Crown to the native owners				2,734	13	4
LOAN—Floated under Ordinance No. XIII. of 1880	£ 150,000	0	0			
Less principal of debentures redeemed	14,300	0	0			
				135,700	0	0
IMPERIAL ADVANCES				115,389	14	6
PUBLIC ACCOUNT—Cheques outstanding, 31st December 1889				18,802	5	3
Special advance from Indian Immigrants' Return-passages Fund, 1887				4,339	10	0
PUBLIC TRUST ACCOUNT—						
Wages and return-passage money of Polynesian immigrants				23,305	6	2
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' INTRODUCTION FUND—						
Amount standing to credit of above account				7,991	13	6
INTESTATE AND VACANT ESTATES' ACCOUNT—						
Amount standing to credit of above account				3,329	16	1
INDIAN IMMIGRANTS' RETURN-PASSAGES' FUND (Under Ordinance XIII. of 1882)—						
Amount standing to credit of above account				16,307	1	10
Carried forward				328,168	11	5

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward -	68,559	17	11	Brought forward	328,168	11	5
DECEASED IMMIGRANTS SUSPENSE ACCOUNT—				DECEASED IMMIGRANTS SUSPENSE ACCOUNT—			
Bank of New Zealand, credit balance, 31st December 1889	89	8	2	Amount standing to credit of above account - -	89	8	2
BANK OF NEW ZEALAND PUBLIC ACCOUNT—				Crown Agents' debit balance on the 31st December 1889 - -	470	3	1
Credit balance, 31st December 1889 - - - -	632	12	1				
	69,281	18	2				
Excess of liabilities -	259,446	4	6				
	328,728	2	8		328,728	2	8

HORACE G. C. EMBERSON,
Receiver-General.

Audited :—D. J. CHISHOLM,
Auditor.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted during the year 1889.

No. I.—To authorise the expenditure of 4,036*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, for the service of the year ending the 31st day of December 1888, in excess of the amount already sanctioned by Ordinance.

No. II.—To repeal Ordinance No. VII. of 1888, intituled "An "Ordinance to provide for and Regulate the Construction or "Maintenance by private persons of Telegraph and other lines on "Public Lands."

No. III.—To appropriate a sum not exceeding 59,284*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* to the service of the year ending the 31st day of December in the year of our Lord 1890.

No. IV.—To amend "The Customs Regulation Ordinance, 1881."

No. V.—To repeal Ordinance No. XXXI. of 1876 intituled "An Ordinance for the Regulation of a force of armed Native Constabulary" and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. VI.—To repeal sections 15 and 17 of an Act of the Imperial Parliament 5 and 6 William IV., Chapter 62.

No. VII.—To amend "The Polynesian Immigration Ordinance, 1888."

No. VIII.—To amend "The Police Ordinance, 1876."

No. IX.—To amend "The Masters and Servants Ordinance, 1888."

No. X.—To amend "The Marine Board Ordinance, 1888.'

No. XI.—To amend the Law relating to Indian immigration.

No. XII.—To declare the Law relating to the fraudulent marking of merchandise,

No. XIII.—To make further provision for the Protection for Women and Girls, the Suppression of Brothels; and other purposes.

No. XIV.—To amend the Divorce Ordinance No. XIV. of 1883, extending the provisions of that Ordinance to Native Fijians.

No. XV.—To amend "The Summary Conviction Offences Ordinance, 1876," (No. XVII.), and "The Summary Conviction Amendment Ordinance 1884," (No. VI.).

No. XVI.—To amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy.

VII.—Councils.

Consequent on the transfer from this Colony to that of Hong Kong of Mr. Fielding Clarke, Chief Justice, and on the appointment of Mr. Henry Spencer Berkeley, Attorney General, to be Chief Justice of the Colony, Mr. Philip Samuel Solomon, Q.C., acted as Attorney General and as a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, from 4th February 1889 until 13th December 1889.

Mr. John Symonds Udal, who was appointed to be Attorney General of the Colony, was duly sworn in as a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils.

VIII.—Civil Establishment.

His Honour Mr. Henry Spencer Berkeley administered the Government during the absence from the Colony of His Excellency the Governor, on two occasions in the course of the year, viz., from 4th to 22nd June and from 19th December till the end of the year.

Mr. Fielding Clarke relinquished the position of Chief Justice, and left the Colony on 4th February 1889 to assume the appointment of Puisne Judge of the Colony of Hong Kong.

Mr. Henry Spencer Berkeley, Attorney General, was appointed to be Chief Justice.

Mr. Philip Samuel Solomon, Q.C., acted as Attorney General from 4th February until 13th December, when Mr. John Symonds Udal, appointed by the Secretary of State to be Attorney General of the Colony, assumed the duties of the office.

Mr. John R. Farewell and Mr. Francis R. S. Baxendale, passed Cadets, were on 1st June appointed to be Stipendiary Magistrates.

Mr. J. O. Forth, clerk in the Audit Office, was on 1st of June appointed to be clerk of Native accounts and Native taxes.

Ratu Ioni Madraiwiwi, clerk in the Audit Office, was on 1st June appointed to be Assistant Resident Commissioner of the Province of Ra.

Mr. F. S. Henry, passed Cadet, was on 15th October appointed to be Assistant Magistrate of Colo West and Nadroga, and an officer of the armed Native constabulary.

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Mr. F. C. D. B. Fuller, passed Cadet, was on 13th May appointed to be Acting Resident Commissioner of Rotumah, during the absence on leave of the Resident Commissioner.

Mr. A. R. Coates was on 8th August appointed to be a clerk in the Immigration Office in place of Mr. Fuller.

Mr. D. Yeoward from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, was on 17th November 1889 appointed to be Curator of the Botanic Establishment.

The following appointments as district medical officers were made during the year to fill vacancies caused by resignations, viz.:—

Dr. J. M. Barnes, on 2nd June.
Dr. S. Oliver, on 13th August.
Dr. C. W. Daniels, on 13th December.

Miss Mary Anna Marshal was on 17th June appointed matron of the Suva public hospital.

Mr. Henry Harris was on 4th April appointed to be sergeant of police. He resigned on 8th September.

Mr. E. Ensor was appointed to be a police constable on 16th November 1889.

Mr. Denis Egan was on 20th September appointed to be a European officer of the armed native constabulary and clerk of stores.

Ratu George Vakawaletabua Roko Tui Bua, died on the 1st February and was succeeded by Ratu Tevita Suraki who took office on 20th April.

Five European officers resigned their appointments during the year.

Thirty officers gave security for the due discharge of their duties.

IX.—Pensions.

No new pensions were granted during the year. The gross amount of the annual pension list at 31st December 1889 was 337*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, of which only 250*l.* was drawn during the year.

X.—Foreign Consuls.

The foreign countries having resident representatives in the Colony are:—the United States of America, the German Empire, Sweden and Norway, and Italy.

XI.—Population.

The population of the Colony, according to the estimate of the Registrar General was, at 31st December 1889, as under :—

——	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans - - -	1,322	666	1,988
Half-castes - - -	429	429	858
Indians - - - -	3,565	2,746	6,311
Chinese - - - -	39	3	42
Polynesians - - -	2,214	136	2,350
Rotumans - - -	1,079	1,220	2,299
Fijians - - - -	58,732	52,139	110,871
Others - - - -	100	100	200
Total - -	67,480	57,439	124,919

XII.—Immigration.

The number of immigrant labourers introduced into the Colony during the year 1889 was:—

Polynesians - - - -	111
Indians - - - - -	677
Total - - - -	788

The number returned to their homes was :—

Polynesians - - - -	37
Indians - - - - -	533
Total - - - -	570

The number of immigrant labourers in the Colony at 31st December 1889 is estimated at :—

Polynesians - - - -	2,074
Indians - - - - -	6,426
Total - - - -	8,500

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XIII.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The following are the statistics of the Wesleyan and the Roman Catholic missions at work in Fiji and Rotumah.

(1.) *Wesleyan Mission.*

Churches	909
Other preaching places	414
European missionaries	10
Native ordained ministers	72
Catechists	49
Teachers	1,095
Local preachers	1,838
Class leaders	3,254
Church members, European and Native	28,550
On trial for membership	4,561
English Communicants, not Church members	16
Catechumens	4,763
Attendants on public worship	103,775

(2.) *Roman Catholic Mission.*

Churches and chapels	76
Other preaching places	143
European missionaries	18
Native teachers	148
Training institutions for Europeans	3
„ „ Natives	11
European sisters	14
„ brothers	3
Adherents	10,302

For the religious requirements of Europeans there are the following churches:—

In Suva.	Accommodation for
One Episcopalian church	200
One Presbyterian church	200
One Roman Catholic church	150
In Levuka.	
One Episcopalian church	200
One Wesleyan church	150
One Roman Catholic church	200

XIV.—EDUCATION.

There are two State-aided primary schools for the education of European children, one in Suva and one in Levuka. The average attendance is as follows:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Suva School - - -	55	48	103
Levuka - - -	33	21	54

The Government maintains a technical school at Yanawai, on the Island of Vanua Levu, where during the year 62 resident Native youths were instructed in primary education, planting, boat-building, and other industrial pursuits.

The statistics of the mission schools are as follows:—

(1.) *Wesleyan Mission.*

Day schools - - - -	2,112
Teachers - - - -	2,477
Daily attendance - - -	40,667
Sunday schools - - - -	1,603
Teachers - - - -	2,635
Attendance - - - -	42,211

(2.) *Roman Catholic Mission.*

Day scholars European - - -	120
„ Natives - - -	2,300
„ Rotumans - - -	166

XV.—PUBLICATIONS.

There are two English newspapers published in the Colony viz.:—

The "Fiji Times," at Suva, twice a week; circulation, 600.

The "Levuka Times," at Levuka, weekly; circulation 75.

The Fijian newspaper "Na Mata," is published by the Government every month, circulation about 450.

The "Fiji Royal Gazette" is published about five times per month; circulation, 175.

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XVI.—CURRENCY, BANKING, &c.

Only the Imperial weights, measures, and coinage are in use in the colony.

The Bank of New Zealand has a branch at Suva and one at Levuka.

The Union Bank of Australia (Limited) has a branch in Suva.

The following may be regarded as the ordinary rates of exchange, viz.:—

Drafts on London at 60 days sight, 1½ per cent. premium.
Drafts on London at 30 days sight, 2 per cent. premium.
Drafts on London, on demand, 2½ per cent. premium.
Drafts on any of the Australasian Colonies, on demand 1 per cent premium.
Drafts on America and Canada at 30 days sight, 3 per cent, premium.

XVII.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

The following statement shows the total value of the import and export trade of the Colony for each of the past four years:—

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE OF THE COLONY.

Value of the Total Imports and Exports of the Colony, distinguishing between Produce raised in the Colony and Produce imported for Exportation.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports:—				
For use in the Colony -	208,955 5 7	177,587 6 0	175,155 19 5	188,339 7 1
*Produce imported for exportation - -	21,673 13 2	10,484 0 6	8,065 16 9	1,053 14 0
Total - -	230,628 18 9	188,071 6 6	183,221 16 2	189,393 1 1
Exports:—				
Produce raised in the Colony - - -	261,822 14 0	270,611 9 3	368,912 7 5	363,227 18 6
Imported produce exported - - -	21,673 13 2	10,468 17 6	8,065 16 9	1,053 14 0
Total - -	283,496 7 2	281,080 6 9	376,978 4 2	364,281 12 6
Total of Imports and Exports	514,125 5 11	469,151 13 3	560,200 0 4	553,674 13 7

* This is South Sea Island produce.

The trade of the Colony with different countries is shown in the following statements :—

TOTAL TRADE OF THE COLONY WITH DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Return showing the Total Value of Imports into Fiji from the different Countries for the Year ending 31*st December* 1889.

Country.	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Futuna - - -	—	259 0 0	259 0 0
India - - -	412 13 2	30 7 2	443 0 4
New Caledonia - -	311 9 1	299 7 6	610 16 7
New Hebrides - -	153 9 10	—	153 9 10
New South Wales -	94,362 18 3	32,418 13 8	126,781 11 11
New Zealand - -	22,981 13 10	15,154 2 5	38,135 16 3
Samoa - - -	45 13 6	189 3 0	234 16 6
Tonga - - -	66 3 0	138 11 9	204 14 9
United States - -	979 5 0	—	979 5 0
Victoria - - -	11,845 10 3	9,212 19 8	21,058 9 11
Wallis Island - -	—	532 0 0	532 0 0
Totals - -	131,158 15 11	58,234 5 2	189,393 1 1

Return showing the Value of Exports to the several Countries for the Year ending 31*st December* 1889.

Country.	Value.
	£ s. d.
France - - - - - -	4,912 0 1
New Hebrides - - - - - -	56 1 0
New South Wales - - - - -	77,886 17 6
New Zealand - - - - - -	166,421 16 3
Portugal - - - - - -	4,550 0 0
Samoa - - - - - -	178 5 6
Spain - - - - - - -	18,459 15 8
Tonga - - - - - -	250 11 11
Victoria - - - - - -	91,549 1 9
Wallis Island - - - - - -	17 2 10
Totals - - - -	364,281 12 6

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Return showing the Total Trade of the Colony of Fiji with the under-mentioned Countries for the Year ending 31*st December* 1889.

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New South Wales - -	126,781 11 11	77,886 17 6	204,668 9 5
New Zealand - - -	38,135 16 3	166,421 16 3	204,557 12 6
Tonga - - - -	204 14 9	250 11 11	455 6 8
United Kingdom - - -	—	—	—
United States - - -	979 5 0	—	979 5 0
Victoria - - -	21,058 9 11	91,549 1 9	112,607 11 8
Totals - - -	187,159 17 10	336,108 7 5	523,268 5 3

The division of the trade of the Colony between British Possessions and other countries was, during the past four years, as under:—

2.—*Total Value of Imports from British Possessions, Polynesian Islands, and other Countries.*

—	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From British Possessions -	206,182 18 6	174,547 3 8	174,244 8 0	186,418 18 5
From Polynesian Islands -	22,663 15 1	10,288 17 7	8,781 16 2	1,179 6 4
From other Countries -	1,782 5 2	3,235 5 3	195 12 0	1,794 16 4
Total - -	230,628 18 9	188,071 6 6	183,221 16 2	189,393 1 1

3.—*Value of Total Exports to British Possessions and to other Countries respectively.*

—	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Exported to British Possessions - - - -	238,921 9 8	268,554 4 8	341,446 10 10	335,857 15 6
Exported to other countries	44,574 17 6	12,526 2 1	35,531 13 4	28,423 17 0
Total - -	283,496 7 2	281,080 6 9	376,978 4 2	364,281 12 6

The accounts of imports and exports are exclusive of specie and bullion.

As there is no direct communication with the United Kingdom, the import of British goods appears under the head of the various Colonies whence they are directly brought.

The total imports and exports to the Australasian Colonies have, in the past four years, been as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1886 - - - -	186,904	238,920
1887 - - - -	153,544	263,545
1888 - - - -	172,423	341,437
1889 - - - -	185,976	335,858

Imports and exports have respectively formed the following proportions of the total trade of the years mentioned:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
1886 - - - -	44·86	55·14
1887 - - - -	40·09	59·91
1888 - - - -	32·70	67·30
1889 - - - -	34·20	65·80

For the past five years the exports have exceeded the imports in value.

Imports.

The principal articles of import and the value of each during the past four years are shown hereunder, viz:—

Nature of Import.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£	£	£	£
1. Bacon and hams - -	1,663	1,363	1,160	1,414
2. Bags and sugar mats - -	3,911	4,749	4,961	4,785
3. Beer - - - -	5,062	3,891	2,948	2,987
4. Boots and shoes - -	3,282	4,010	2,980	2,897
5. Breadstuffs and biscuits -	14,868	10,879	10,144	16,114
6. Butter - - -	2,582	2,281	1,453	1,272
7. Cordage - - -	1,326	980	1,532	1,705
8. Cigars - - -	1,021	582	664	727
9. Coals - - -	9,173	9,657	5,611	6,550

Nature of Import.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	£	£	£	£
10. Doors and sashes - -	224	188	123	290
11. Drapery - - -	40,228	40,574	48,075	42,899
12. Drugs - - - -	2,530	2,088	1,863	1,978
13. Fish - - - -	2,491	1,758	1,613	1,999
14. Fruits, bottled and dried -	805	634	522	564
15. Galvanised iron and goods -	2,741	1,539	1,854	2,829
16. Glassware and crockery -	2,039	1,855	1,631	2,334
17. Hardware - - -	21,535	16,519	12,957	14,560
18. Iron, bar, rod - - -	491	499	404	357
19. Iron, rails and pipes - -	2,248	229	755	554
20. Jams and jellies - -	696	519	473	540
21. Jewellery - - -	1,019	971	883	1,186
22. Live stock - - -	4,537	3,591	4,000	4,001
23. Machinery - - -	7,732	9,613	8,112	4,048
24. Manure - - -	259	551	2,659	8,132
25. Meats - -	11,199	6,733	8,282	7,948
26. Musical instruments - -	771	498	547	335
27. Oils - - - -	5,150	5,468	5,280	4,889
28. Pickles and oilstores - -	2,661	2,486	1,734	1,756
29. Paints - - - -	1,030	1,174	1,062	1,911
30. Produce -	5,174	5,877	5,868	2,903
31. Rice - - - -	9,972	7,951	8,298	11,451
32. Ship chandlery -	1,420	1,849	2,039	2,931
33. Soap - - - -	1,765	1,715	1,767	1,585
34. Spirits - - -	3,691	3,260	2,854	2,817
35. Stationery - - -	2,640	2,427	2,148	2,490
36. Sugar - - - -	158	26	27	718
37. Tea - - - -	1,715	1,149	441	238
38. Timber - - -	6,807	3,032	2,839	5,426
39. Tobacco - - -	1,845	904	981	1,163
40. Vegetables and green fruits -	2,514	1,856	2,000	2,866
41. Wines - - - -	1,468	987	716	1,166
42. Woodenware and furniture -	3,140	2,257	2,964	2,746
43. Other imports - - -	33,959	18,902	15,998	9,332

The value of imports (189,393*l.*) is slightly greater than in either of the two previous years. The principal increase appears to have been on breadstuffs (which, except in the case of fancy biscuits, are duty free), coal (duty free), galvanized iron goods, glassware and crockery, hardware, manure (duty free), paints, rice, ship chandlery, timber, vegetables and greenfruits. There has been a falling off, as compared with previous years, in the items of drapery, machinery (duty free), oils and produce.

Exports.

The value of exports in the year 1888 (376,978*l.*), was the greatest that has been recorded since the foundation of the Colony.

The value of exports during the past year was 364,281*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* showing a falling off from the previous year of 12,697*l.* Of this falling off, however, 7,012*l.* represented the amount of reduction in imported produce exported. The value of exports raised in the Colony was less than in the previous year by only 5,685*l.*

If, however, exports had been valued at the same rate in 188 as in 1888, the reduction in the value of Colonial produce exporte would have been 44,628*l.*

The difference in valuation occurred on two items; the v lue of sugar being reckoned at 4*l.* per ton higher (20*l.*), whilst the value of copra was reckoned at 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton lower (7*l.*) than in the previous year.

The following table shows in respect of the past four years the principal articles of export, with the respective quantities and values:—

Table showing the Principal Articles of Export, with their Quantities and Values, Years 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889.

Article.		1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Sugar	Tons	11,716	12,831	16,916	13,178
	Value, £	187,456	205,294	270,649	263,553
Copra (including cocoanuts)	Tons	5,217	1,957	4,219	5,663
	Value, £	49,564	12,356	41,065	41,543
Fruit, dried and preserved	Cases	544	546	211	100
Bananas	Bunches	261,741	359,294	517,666	531,008
„ and pineapples	Cases	4,988	6,105	4,668	4,499
	Value, £	23,059	31,026	42,448	42,605
Cotton	Tons	52	24	3½	16 7/20
	Value, £	6,125	2,894	342	788
Bêche-de-mer	Tons	70 1/10	96 3/10	62	51 4/10
	Value, £	3,505	4,812	3,100	2,570
Maize	Bushels	16,228	15,288	12,968	4,704
	Value, £	2,434	2,293	1,945	706
Molasses	Gallons	120,180	36,790	79,497	89,174
	Value, £	751	230	497	557
Peanuts	Tons	160	331	346	190
	Value, £	3,003	6,178	6,460	3,546
Coir fibre	Tons	45	44	13	9½
	Value, £	455	347	128	93
Coffee	Lbs.	7,426	10,799	956	116
	Value, £	186	270	24	3
Spirits, Colonial distilled	Gallons	338 3/10	4,285	8,159	6,551
	Value, £	59	750	1,428	1,146
Tea	Lbs.	220	20,950	29,253	21,246
	Value, £	22	2,095	2,950	1,459
Cocoanut, desiccated	Lbs.	—		19,426	69,258
	Value, £	—	—	497	1,731
Tortoiseshell	Lbs.	994	1,302	1,145	822
	Value, £	522	684	601	431
Wool	Lbs.	15,698	17,403	22,920	13,902
	Value, £	654	725	956	771

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The minor articles of export not mentioned in the foregoing return comprise:—Arrowroot, bark, bones, candlenuts, cardamons, chillies, cigars, cinchona, curiosities, fungus, gum, hair (angora), herbs, hides, limes, limejuice, mats, pearl-shell, plants and seeds sandalwood, sharkfins, sinnet, skins, tallow, timber, tobacco, turtles, yams, and yangona (*Macra Piper Mythisticum*).

There is a decrease in the quantity of sugar exported as compared with the previous year of 3,738 tons. This decrease is partly accounted for by the unprecedented floods which accompanied the hurricane in the beginning of the year, and which, continuing for a whole week, damaged a considerable quantity of the growing crop on the Rewa river. On 31st December 1889, however, a large stock of sugar was on hand awaiting shipment. This amounted to 1,912 tons.

The quantity of copra (5,663 tons) exported was greater than during any of the past six years, but the price, was the lowest that has been experienced. There appears, however, every hope that this commodity will soon command a considerably higher figure in the market.

This year shows the highest export of green fruit, but this trade has not during the past year advanced in volume at the same rate as in previous years. The quantity of bananas exported is now considerably over half-a-million bunches per annum, and in the Colony the trade may be said to have been gathering strength, the cultivation of the banana being now reduced to a science. A disease has appeared among banana plantations during the past six or seven years, and would make rapid strides but for the persistent watchfulness of the growers. No reliable cure for the banana disease has yet been found, but inquiry and experiment are still going on.

Cotton.—The export of cotton, at one time the principal product of the group, fell as low as 3½ tons in 1888. During the past year, however, attention has been given to the product, which has been planted by Natives, in some cases, in payment of their taxes. The cultivation of the "Sea Island" variety has been to all intents abandoned in favour of the kidney cotton. The cotton shipped from the Colony during the past year, albeit only 16 tons 17 cwt. in quantity (ginned) has attained an excellent reputation and returned a correspondingly good price. The cultivation of the article is increasing.

Bêche de Mer.—The Export of this slug has decreased within the past two years. 51$\frac{4}{10}$ tons, valued at 2,570*l.*, were shipped in the year 1889.

Maize.—The quantity of maize shipped has greatly decreased, only 4,704 bushels being exported during the year 1889. The quantity consumed locally has however increased considerably, and it it perhaps hardly to be expected that there should be a great export of a cereal product like maize from a tropical Colony to the more temperately situate Australasian Colonies.

Coffee.—The production of coffee appears to be approaching extinction, only 116 lbs being exported during the past year.

Desiccated Cocoanut.—The export of desiccated cocoanut which began in the year 1888 with 19,426 lbs., has this year increased to 69,258 lbs. The market for the product is, however, limited, but growing.

XVIII.—NAVIGATION.

The number and tonnage of merchant vessels entering from abroad at the two ports of entry in the Colony during each of the past four years are as under:—

Year.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total No. of Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.		
1886	60	34,781	58	19,351	118	54,132
1887	66	33,231	53	13,671	119	46,902
1888	71	39,750	35	9,892	106	49,579
1889	62	40,892	27	10,328	89	51,220

The nationality of these vessels is shown below:—

Year.	British.		American.		German.		Norwegian.		Tongan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1886	106	48,289	2	576	10	5,267	—	—	—	—
1887	105	41,378	—	—	7	2,680	4	2,737	3	107
1888	99	46,401	—	—	3	1,077	4	2,101	—	—
1889	79	46,005	1	224	1	517	7	4,452	1	22

The total registered tonnage of merchant vessels entering in during the past year is higher than the corresponding figures of the two previous years.

The following particulars relating to the internal shipping of the Colony are of interest:—

Statement of Sea-going Certificates issued by the Fiji Marine Board for the Four Years ending 31st December 1889.

Year.	European-owned Vessels.		Native-owned Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1886	47	2,199	17	294	64	2,493
1887	49	2,048	50	526	99	2,574
1888	74	1,433	148	1,073	222	2,506
1889	117	1,756	198	1,264	315	3,020

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It is observable that within the four years under review the number of European-owned vessels has nearly trebled. The total tonnage is however, less at the end than at the beginning of the period, a fact which indicates that the smaller vessels of about 10 tons register are found more useful than vessels of a larger tonnage.

The number of Native-owned vessels in sufficiently good order to receive certificates from the Marine Board increased from 17 in the year 1886, to 198 in the year 1889, with a total registered tonnage of 1,264.

Up to 31st December 1889 as many as 281 Native Fijians had, after examination, been licensed by the Marine Board to sail vessels within the Group.

The total number of interinsular vessels holding sea-going certificates at 31st December 1889 was 315, with a total tonnage of 3,020.

XIX.—AGRICULTURE.

The estimated acreage of land in the Colony is 4,953,920.

The acreage under cultivation by Europeans is estimated at 35,375 acres, in crop as follows:—

	Acres.
Arrowroot	1½
Bananas	2,460½
Coffee	27
Cocoanuts	18,939
Maize	334½
Pine apples	127
Sugar cane	12,626
Tobacco	25
Yams	168
Other produce	648½
Total	35,357

XX.—LIVE STOCK.

The returns of live stock in the Colony at the end of the year give the following figures:—

Horses	695
Horned cattle	8,768
Sheep	6,838
Goats	4,502

XXI.—LABOUR.

The cost and condition of labour remain as stated in Colonial Possessions Report, No. 79, except that the number of Indian

immigrants in the Colony was increased by 144 during the year (*vide* "XII. Immigration"), and the cost of their introduction was less than in former years.

XXII.—PRICES.

The average retail price of the various articles of use or consumption as given by the Registrar General is as follows:—

Wheaten flour, per 196 lbs. 1*l.* 8*s.*
Wheat, per imperial bushel, 5*s.*
Wheaten bread, per lb., 2*d.*
Horned cattle, each, 3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
Horses, 15*l.* to 25*l.*
Sheep, 1*l.* to 1*l.* 5*s.*
Goats, 5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*
Swine, 15*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Milk, per quart, 4*d.* to 6*d.*
Butter, fresh, per lb., 2*s.*
„ salt „ 1*s.*
Cheese, per lb. 1*s.*
Beef, 6*d.* to 7*d.*
Mutton, 8*d.*
Pork, 8*d.*
Rice, 2*d.*
Coffee, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Tea, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*
Sugar, 3*d.* to 4*d.*
Salt, 1*d.*
Wine, per gallon:—
Port, 27*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Sherry, 22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Claret, 12*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy, per gallon, 27*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Beer, per gallon, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*
Tobacco, per lb. 6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Corned beef, (New Zealand) per lb., 4*d.*
Tinned milk, per lb. 9*d.*
Tinned meats, 9*d.* to 10*d.*
Kerosene oil, per tin, 7*s.* to 9*s.*
Potatoes, per cwt., 10*s.*
Candles, per lb. 7½*d.* to 10*d.*

XXIII.—MACHINERY.

The number of sugar mills in the Colony is returned at 11.

XXIV.—LAND.

The total area of land granted to Europeans up to the end of the year 1889 was 410,615 acres. The area remaining unalienated or in the occupation of Natives was 4,543,305 acres.

XXV.—CRIME.

The following table shows comparatively for the past four years the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals.

	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates	11,629	8,044	6,443	4,377
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person -	312	501	266	242
2. For larceny - - -	244	223	172	185
3. For offences against property other than larceny - - - -	174	73	115	233
4. For other offences - - -	8,578	5,424	4,316	2,405
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—				
1. For offences against the person -	57	18	30	16
2. For larceny - - - -	3	—	9	1
3. For offences against property other than larceny - - - -	12	11	8	5
4. For other offences - - -	—	—	—	2
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the inferior courts - - -	2,155	1,759	1,514	1,233
2. In the superior courts - - -	24	17	31	29

The statistics of the year 1889 show on the whole a considerable diminution in crime as compared with the records of recent years.

XXVI.—PRISONS.

The following statistics of the Colonial prisons are given in respect of the year 1889.

The figures relating to the previous year are added for the purpose of comparison.

1889.	Men.	Women.	Juveniles	Total.	Total for Year 1888.
Number of persons committed in 1889 for debt - - -	1	—	—	1	1
In safe custody till tried or for want of security - -	83	5	—	88	126
For purposes of penal imprisonment - - - -	567	54	3	624	901
Total - - -	651	59	3	713	1,028

The daily average in prison throughout the year was :—

	1889.	1888.
Men - - - -	171	190·65
Women - - - -	6	9·18
Juveniles - - - -	—	—
Total - -	177	199·83

There were 82 admissions of prisoners to hospital during the year, and five deaths.

The total cost of the prisons of the Colony during the past two years was :—

	£	s.	d.
1888 - - - -	2,317	7	11
1889 - - - -	2,241	1	5

The earnings of prisoners amounted to 1,632*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* during the year.

XXVII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following return furnished by the Registrar General shows that the European death-rate of the year was 14·08 per mille. The health of European community was good. The Fijians suffered in some places from the prevalence of diseases of the influenza and bowel complaint type.

European Death Rate for the past 11 *Years.*

Year.	Death Rate per 1,000.
1879 - - - -	16·59
1880 - - - -	18·24
1881 - - - -	16·84
1882 - - - -	16·21
1883 - - - -	14·80
1884 - - - -	16·54
1885 - - - -	14·27
1886 - - - -	15·12
1887 - - - -	14·72
1888 - - - -	16·08
1889 - - - -	14·08
Mean of 10 years to 1888 -	15·94

Causes of Deaths of Europeans, Year 1889.

Peritonitis	1
Consumption	2
Inflammation of the lungs	1
Dropsy	3
Disease of the heart	3
Apoplexy	2
Diarrhœa	3
Malignant tumor of eye	1
Dysentery	5
Paralysis	1
Premature birth	1
Cerebral hœmorrhage	1
Senility	1
Urœmia	1
Cerebritis	1
Gangrene of the bowels	1
Tubacosis	1
Lockjaw from an injury	1
Suicide	1
Sunstroke	1
Bursting blood vessel	1
Inflammation of kidneys	1
Murder	1
Coko (yaws)	1
Rupture	1
Unknown	2

XXVIII.—PUBLIC HOSPITAL.

The following statistics are given with reference to Suva publi hospital:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of patients in hospital at the beginning of the year	22	7	29
Number admitted during the year	312	66	378
Total number treated	334	73	407
Daily average in hospital during the year	34	8	42
Number discharged:—			
Cured	103	39	142
Relieved	55	17	72
Not improved	9	—	9
Total	167	56	223
The number of deaths was	37	3	40

The class of patients treated is shown in the following table:—

Class.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.
			Per cent.
Europeans - - - -	26	3	11·53
Fijians - - - - -	196	9	4·59
Melanesians - - - -	70	17	24·28
Indians - - - - -	108	11	10·18
Half-castes and miscellaneous - -	7	Nil.	—
Total - -	407	40	*9·82

* Including moribund and otherwise hopeless admissions.

There is also a cottage hospital in Levuka maintained by private subscriptions and fees of patients. The ordinary number of patients in the cottage hospital is from one to two Europeans and from three to five Natives.

XXIX.—Lunatic Asylum.

Six patients were admitted during the year.
The number discharged was:—

Cured - - - - -	3
Relieved - - - - -	5
Not improved - - - -	2
Total -	10

There remained five patients in the asylum at the close of the year.

XXX.—Meteorology.

The following returns are furnished by the Government meteorological observer:—

STATION.—SUVA.

$\lambda = 178° 26' 0''$. E $\varphi = 18° 8' 0''$ South.

Months.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature.							Dewpoint mean. 9 0 AM.
		Mean. 9 0 AM.	Means of		Absolute Min. and Max.				
			Min.	Max.	Min.	Date.	Max.	Date.	
January - - -	29·984	81	74	84	72	2nd	86	4th, 29th	71·0
February - - -	29·957	83	74	86	69	4th	91	19th	72·0
March - - -	29·982	83	74	85	70	10th, 11th	90	25th	71·6
April - - - -	30·019	79	73	84	69	23rd	87	3rd, 5th	74·4
May - - - -	30·101	76	71	81	66	25th	86	13th	69·5
June - - - -	30·074	77	72	83	63	21st	87	2nd	69·0
July - - - -	30·120	72	70	79	65	11th, 12th	85	24th	66·6
August - - -	30·102	77	69	82	63	3rd	88	12th	67·4
September - - -	30·097	78	72	82	64	1st	86	18th	69·6
October - - -	30·057	81	73	84	68	30th	86	22nd to 28th	68·6
November - - -	29·947	79	72	83	68	2nd	88	27th	70·2
December - - -	29·922	81	74	84	71	3rd	88	31st	71·4
Year - - -	30·030	79	72	83	68·5	—	87	—	69·9

STATION.—SUVA.

ht = 4 ft. 0 in. hr = 14 ft. 0 in.

Months.	Amount of Cloud.	Rainfall.			Weather. No. of Days of							Wind. No. of Observations of								
	Mean. 9 0 AM.	Total.	Max.	Date.	Rain.	Snow.	Hail.	Thunder-storms.	Clear Sky.	Over-cast.	Gales.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
January -	5	17·07	3·43	22nd	24	—	—	—	2	5	0	0	10	13	7	1	0	0	0	0
February -	3	9·21	1·46	14th	21	—	—	4	6	1	0	2	5	8	8	4	0	0	1	0
March - -	5	8·30	2·08	26th	23	—	—	3	3	0	0	3	5	8	10	3	1	0	1	0
April - -	6	12·65	1·84	4th	24	—	—	4	5	1	0	0	1	10	15	2	2	0	0	0
May - -	5	9·97	3·63	21st	17	—	—	—	8	6	0	0	1	8	15	4	1	1	1	0
June - -	4	8·71	5·80	13th	12	—	—	5	10	8	0	10	5	5	4	2	1	1	2	0
July - -	5	1·86	0·66	31st	17	—	—	—	3	11	0	7	1	10	10	1	2	0	0	0
August - -	4	5·95	2·55	30th	14	—	—	1	3	14	0	1	6	7	12	0	1	0	4	0
September -	5	5·03	1·03	8th	20	—	—	—	1	9	0	1	5	7	16	0	1	0	0	0
October -	3·7	4·03	1·20	27th	20	—	—	—	0	11	0	3	2	11	12	3	0	0	0	0
November -	6	29·32	7·91	22nd	25	—	—	3	0	5	0	0	4	9	10	1	4	1	1	0
December -	6	7·35	0·95	1st, 19th	29	—	—	—	0	2	0	10	5	6	8	0	0	0	2	0
Year -	4·8	119·45	—	—	251	—	—	20	41	73	0	37	50	102	127	21	13	3	12	0

FIJI.

The foregoing meteorological observations are made at Suva, and as regards temperature may be taken as representative of the coast-line of the whole group. But the various districts of the Colony differ materially in the amount of rainfall, the dissimilarity between the windward and leeward sides of the larger islands being in this respect most marked.

J. STEWART,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 117.

HONG KONG.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Reports Nos. 77 and 84.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1890.

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1890.

[C.—6221.–6.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	—
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,

No. 117.

HONG KONG.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Reports Nos. 77 and 84.]

Acting Governor Fleming to Lord Knutsford.

Government House, Hong Kong,
September 15, 1890.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889.

Revenue.

2. It is satisfactory to find that the revenue continued to increase. Sir G. William Des Vœux, in his Despatch of the 31st of October, 1889,* remarked that the revenue for 1888 ($1,557;300) was larger than in any former year. But the revenue for 1889 was $1,823,549, exceeding that for the previous year by $266,249.

3. There was a continued increase on the amount derived from "Stamps" and "Assessed taxes," the former rising from $187,150 in 1888 to $213,479 in 1889, the latter from $360,291 to $374,857.

The very large amount of business done during the year on share transactions must have given rise to this addition in stamp revenue, however much this speculative business may have proved detrimental in other respects.

The increase in "Assessed taxes" may in great measure be attributed to the number of houses built during the year, but the better assessment of property no doubt tended to further the increase.

4. The large increase of $246,325 derived from opium is owing to an agreement which was entered into in March 1889, in virtue of which the opium monopoly was sold for a period of three years at $477,600 per annum, being $295,200 over the price previously obtained.

5. Another important increase is that of $10,582 on leased lands, which is to be accounted for by several land sales that took place during the year.

6. The decrease of $12,586 under the heading of fines tends to show a falling off in the number of convictions before the Police Magistrate's Court, while the increase of fees is some proof that the business before the Supreme Court had not lessened.

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* Colonial Possessions Report No. 84.

64640. Wt. 18975.

Expenditure.

7. The ordinary expenditure in 1889 was $1,459,167 as against $1,461,459 in 1888, the extraordinary expenditure being $374,551 as against $530,870. The total expenditure, therefore, in 1889 was $1,833,718, being $158,611 less than in the year before.

8. The decrease in the amount expended on extraordinary public works in 1889, when compared with 1888, is, to a considerable extent, attributable to a large amount spent in 1888 for the distribution of water, and for the purchase of land for a new central market in the city of Victoria.

9. It may be added in connexion with revenue and expenditure that the Chinese inhabitants contribute, by a voluntary assessment among themselves, towards the pay of what are called district watchmen, who are appointed by the Governor under an Ordinance passed in 1888, for protecting those portions of the town especially allotted for the residences of the Chinese inhabitants. In 1889 the amount contributed by them was $7,350, to which $2,000 were supplemented by a grant-in-aid from Government.

10. The military contribution so-called was in 1889 the same as in former years, viz.: 20,000*l.* a year, although it has since been increased, under the instructions of the Imperial Government, to double that amount on the assumption that the garrison is to be considerably enlarged.

But the amount paid for this military contribution by no means represents the entire cost entailed on the Colony for military purposes. The military property, which is of considerable extent, is situated in the centre of the town; it is in itself of great value, but apart from this it pays no rent nor taxes.

Legislation.

11. There were 35 Ordinances passed during 1889, the principal being an Ordinance referring to Chinese emigration, an Ordinance to regulate the construction of buildings in the Colony, and one providing for the extradition of Chinese criminals. Some laws of importance have been passed since the commencement of the present year, and several of more or less consequence, including a new Ordinance on bankruptcy are under consideration.

Education.

12. Two additional schools subject to Government supervision were opened last year, the present number being 99.

The total number of scholars in Government schools during the year was 2,388 as compared with 1,933 in 1888; in grant-in-aid schools 4,814 as compared with 4,325.

The total expenditure for these schools amounted to $44,321, which was somewhat less than in 1888, owing to a discontinuance

of a scholarship, and the amalgamation with salaries of rent allowances formerly given to some of the masters.

13. The Victoria College, the principal school of the Colony, was opened during 1889. This has proved a very costly building, but it no doubt provides much increased accommodation for scholars as well as for a teaching staff.

14. The Government central school for girls was opened not long since. It is as yet premature to offer an opinion on its future success, but any step towards the better education of females should receive every encouragement. Much good must result in Eastern countries by the proper position of women being felt and recognized, and there is nothing more likely to bring this about in this Colony than a careful training and education of Chinese girls.

15. The principles upon which the grant-in-aid system is worked in Hong Kong give every satisfaction, and it is seldom that any question arises in connexion with the system that cannot be amicably settled.

Population.

16. The estimated population at the close of the year was 194,482, of which only 56,449 were females. The number was less by 21,318 than that estimated at the end of 1888 and less than in any year since 1886.

I entertain doubts whether the population of the Colony has a tendency to increase at the present time. It is, of course, difficult to form any safe opinion on somewhat unimportant fluctuations of a comparative short period, while a mere estimated calculation is necessarily of no great value. The census, however, which will take place next year will be a far more accurate criterion as to what the population really is.

Public Health.

17. It is very gratifying to find, from the report of the Colonial Surgeon, that the general health of the Colony during the year was exceptionally good.

The number of deaths among the European residents was lower than for several years past, while among the Chinese the number was the smallest for the last 16 years.

There was no epidemic and even the influenza which, during the latter portion of the year, attacked with such virulence so many different countries, only appeared here in its ordinary form.

The improved condition of the Colony as regards health is in all probability due to the many measures which have been lately taken to secure a more perfect sanitary system, and a more plentiful supply of wholesome water for the community.

Prisons.

HONG KONG.

18. The only gaol in the Colony is the Victoria Gaol, situated in the town, in which the average number admitted during the last few years has been about 4,000. The daily average during 1889 was 581 as against 531 in the year before. Many among these belong to the mendicant class, who find their way to Hong Kong from the mainland of China, and who, when they arrive here, are arrested as vagrants, and committed accordingly. It is to be feared that prison life in regard to these is anything but a deterrent to crime. They frequently enter prison in such a state as to be at once placed on the sick list, and the gaol is, in fact, rather a hospital in which they are cared for than a house of detention in which they are punished. The introduction into the Colony of this class of Chinese should be discouraged as much as possible; but with the constant means of communication between Hong Kong and the different parts of China their arrival is very difficult to guard against.

19. The prison accommodation in the Victoria Gaol is unquestionably insufficient for the number detained there, and this subject is now receiving the serious attention of the Colonial Government. It is very satisfactory to find, however, notwithstanding its somewhat crowded condition, that the gaol is so healthy. There were only four deaths during the whole of the year, and the admissions to the hospital were but 244 as compared with 306 in 1888.

Public Works.

20. Most of the public works now in course of construction were referred to by Sir G. William Des Vœux in his Despatch above mentioned, but I may state that the Praya reclamation scheme (the object of which is to reclaim a large portion of land along the western front of the town of Victoria), the new drainage and water works, the new central market, and a new lunatic asylum for Chinese are rapidly being proceeded with. To these may be added the progress of the work connected with the Gap Rock Lighthouse, the foundation stone of which was laid a short time since. The rock on which this lighthouse is destined to stand is a small island, 400 feet in length, about 34 miles south-west of Hong Kong. It consists of two rugged mounds of rock separated from one another by a long narrow gullet, and this it is which gives the island the name of the Gap Rock. Much difficulty was at first encountered in obtaining the permission of the Chinese authorities to erect the lighthouse on what still continues to be Chinese territory. It is, I think, to be regretted that when Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain some of the small islets around, and which naturally belong to it, were not also acquired.

To have lighthouses adjacent to Hong Kong, although situated on Chinese territory, is no doubt better than to have none at all;

but in case of a war, or of any complications taking place between the British and Chinese Governments, it is impossible to say what difficulties may not arise.

Miscellaneous.

21. No particular event happened during 1889 to call for special notice.

22. It became generally known towards the close of 1889 that their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught would visit Hong Kong on their way home from India, on the termination of His Royal Highness' period of service as Commander-in-Chief in Bombay.

Their Royal Highnesses accordingly arrived in Hong Kong on the 31st of March last, when they were received with a most loyal welcome by all classes of the community. After seeing as much of the Island as the limited time at their disposal would permit of, and after having paid a visit to the neighbouring city of Canton, their Royal Highnesses sailed for Japan *en route* for Canada on the 4th of April.

23. The present condition of this Colony, its increased population, and its rapid strides in advancement generally since it became a British possession less than half a century ago, were vividly described by Sir G. William Des Vœux in the Despatch I have quoted.

I venture to think, however, that the future prosperity of Hong Kong must, in a great measure, depend upon the future of that great Empire to which it belongs geographically although not politically.

The more trade with China is opened up, which can only be done by an increase in the means of her internal communication and by a reduction of her inland taxation, the more advantageous will it be in the interests of this Colony.

The Chinese are naturally averse to innovations and tardy in carrying out changes of any description, but there are some among them as shrewd and as intelligent as can be found in any other nation, and when these perceive what the extension of the railway system and the introduction of modern improvements have done for the neighbouring Empire of Japan, where during the last few years the foreign trade is said to have doubled, they will scarcely be able to close their eyes to the expediency of doing what cannot fail to benefit a country which possesses the largest population of any country in the world.

To encourage China in the adoption of modern ideas, to assist her, in so far as possible, in opening up her vast territory, and to facilitate intercourse between her and other nations, should surely be the duty of a Colony, whose interests are interwoven with her

interests, and whose prosperity will be retarded in proportion as hers is held back by a policy of too conservative a nature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. FLEMING.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

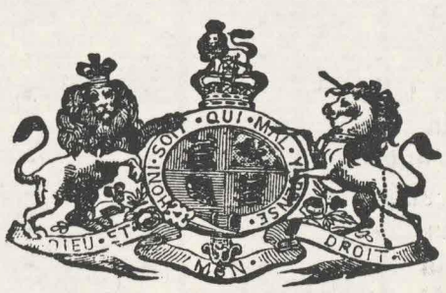
No. 112.

JAMAICA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888-9.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 56.)

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November 1890.



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1890.

[C.—6221.-1.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
61	Gambia	1888
62	Barbados	"
63	Labuan	"
64	Grenada	"
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	"
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	"
71	British Honduras	"
72	British Guiana	"
73	Western Australia	"
74	Gold Coast	"
75	Sierra Leone	"
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	"
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1888
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1888
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	1889
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889

No. 112.

JAMAICA.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 56.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, July 21, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the year 1888–89.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF JAMAICA FOR THE YEAR 1888–89.

Legislation.

During the year 1888–89 35 Laws were passed by the Legislative Council, numbered from Laws 22 to 40 of 1888, and 1 to 16 of 1889. Of these the following call for remark :—

Law 23 of 1888, "The Coroners' Inquests' Regulation Law, 1888."

This Law modifies the previously existing Law on the subject of coroners' inquests in the direction of enlarging the scope of a coroner's discretionary power as to the cases in which inquests should be held, and enables him to avoid the holding of an inquest where no useful object is to be gained.

Law 32 of 1888, "The Quit-rents Forfeiture Law, 1884, Amendment Law, 1888."

This Law substitutes a simpler and more practicable procedure for the forfeiture of land for non-payment of quit-rents than had obtained under the Law of 1884. The chances of proceedings being vitiated by errors, trivial in themselves, occurring in the preliminary stages, and the great delay attendant thereon in any case under the former procedure, had prevented the enforcement of forfeitures for many years, and large arrears of these cases had consequently accumulated.

Law 40 of 1888, "The Civil Procedure Code, 1888."

The draft of this Code had already met with the approval of the Secretary of State before its introduction into the Legislative Council. Its object is to provide a complete and simple system of procedure applicable to all proceedings in the Supreme Court.

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Law 1 of 1889, "The Oaths Law, 1889."

This Law is a transcript of the English Act on the subject (51 & 52 Vict. cap. 46.).

Law 2 of 1889. "The Criminal Code, 1879, Repeal Law."

This Law repeals the whole of the Criminal Code of 1879.

Law 4 of 1889, "The Immigration Protection and Regulation Law 1879 Amendment Law, 1889."

This Law gives to the Resident Magistrate of any parish the power to try and to dispose of offences committed against the Law of 1879, a power previously confined to the Protector and Inspectors of Immigrants, under circumstances which no longer obtain.

Law 7 of 1889, "The Carriers Law, 1889."

This Law was introduced in view of the sale of the railway, legislation to effect which was not then completed. It contains the provisions of the Imperial Act on the subject, with the exception of its seventh section.

Law 8 of 1889, "The Rural Police Law, 1889."

This Law enlarges the powers and usefulness of the rural police, and brings them into closer union with the constabulary, thus very appreciably augmenting the effectiveness of the force as a whole.

Law 9 of 1889, "The Export Duties Law, 1889."

This Law reduces the export duties applicable to immigration purposes in view of the reduced cost of immigration.

Law 12 of 1889, "The Jamaica Railway Company's Law, 1889."

This Law ratifies the agreements of 19th March 1889, and 24th May 1889, for the sale of the Jamaica Government Railway to a company to be formed under the Law, and provides for the construction of extensions.

Finance.

The year under report commenced with a surplus of 30,054*l.*, and the expenditure, including 27,462*l.* for sinking funds and 1,000*l.* for redemption of debt, amounted to 553,061*l.* The revenue yielded 579,545*l.*, leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 56,538*l.*

The appropriated parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, pauper relief, sanitary, and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in this year 107,272*l.*, being 3,648*l.* in excess of the receipts in 1887–88.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services, including the proceeds of employers' notes for cost of introduction of immigrants, amounted to 8,138*l.* and the expenditure to 8,973*l.*

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report, with those of the previous year, is given below:—

—	1888–89.	1887–88.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Import duties	284,377	294,842	—	10,465
Export duties	9,398	9,382	16	—
Light dues	2,300	2,356	—	56
Harbour master's fees	2,162	2,081	81	—
Rum duties	95,502	101,691	—	6,189
Licenses	19,933	17,947	1,986	—
Stamps	16,666	15,995	671	—
Tax on stock	4,501	4,835	—	334
	—	—	2,754	17,044
Tax revenue	434,839	449,129	—	14,290
Postal revenue	18,295	17,492	803	—
Telegraph revenue	4,795	4,448	347	—
Court fees	7,187	6,463	724	—
Fines and forfeitures	3,622	3,392	230	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds	8,903	8,115	788	—
Interest on Savings Bank investment after paying depositors	4,755	3,330	1,425	—
Interest other than as above	4,402	4,074	328	—
Jamaica railway revenue	60,859	55,685	5,174	—
Reimbursements for expenditure	24,178	19,429	4,749	—
Miscellaneous	7,710	4,590	3,120	—
	—	—	17,688	—
Non-tax revenue	144,706	127,018	17,688	—
Grand total	579,545	576,147	3,398	—
Revenues specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	42,146	42,935	—	789
Kingston street tax	3,381	3,140	241	—
Parochial municipal revenue	9,781	8,693	1,088	—
Parochial general purposes	757	750	7	—
Poor rates	38,263	35,734	2,529	—
Sanitary rates	8,119	6,581	1,538	—
Fire rates	1,239	1,093	146	—
Gas rates	2,641	2,349	292	—
Miscellaneous	945	2,349	—	1,404
	—	—	5,841	2,193
	107,272	103,624	3,648	—

	1888–89.	1887–88.	Increase.	Decrease.
Immigration Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Export duties	3,675	6,129	—	2,454
Proceeds of planters' notes	4,078	4,626	—	548
Miscellaneous	61	355	—	294
Interest	324	368	—	44
	—	—	—	3,340
Total	8,138	11,478	—	3,340
Total immigration revenue	8,138	11,478	—	3,340
Total revenue specially appropriated	107,272	103,624	3,648	—
Total general revenue	579,545	576,147	3,398	—
	—	—	7,046	3,340
Total	694,955	691,249	3,706	—

The yield of the general revenue shows a net increase of 3,398*l.* over the previous year, the chief items of which are licenses, 1,986*l.* under tax revenue; interest on savings bank investments, 1,425*l.*; railway revenue, 5,174*l.*; reimbursements, 4,749*l.*; and miscellaneous, 3,120*l.*, under non-tax revenue. There were, however, large decreases under import duties, 10,465*l.*; and rum duties 6,189*l.*, due in both cases to large stocks having been last year taken out of bond in expectation that an increase of duty would have been imposed.

The receipts from appropriated revenues show an aggregate increase of 3,648*l.* on all heads, except parochial road revenues and miscellaneous, which show a decrease of 789*l.* and 1,404*l.* respectively.

Immigration revenues show a decrease of 3,340*l.*, due mainly to the reduction of export duties on sugar and rum by Law 20 of 1887.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with 1887–88 :—

	1888–89.	1887–88.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	83,128	77,454	5,674	—
Pensions	15,036	13,498	1,538	—
Administrative departments	32,094	32,572	—	478
Government savings bank	2,234	2,256	—	22
Revenue departments	31,902	32,208	—	306
Postal services	20,919	19,930	989	—
Telegraph services	4,438	4,217	221	—
Judicial	36,058	36,064	—	6
Ecclesiastical	6,277	6,781	—	504
Medical	49,515	48,786	729	—
Constabulary	47,827	48,033	—	206
Prisons	18,658	17,957	701	—

	1888–89.	1887–88.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure—cont.	£	£	£	£
Reformatories	5,476	5,386	90	—
Education	37,518	35,200	2,318	—
Harbours and pilotage	1,473	1,476	—	3
Military	7,648	7,880	—	232
Steam communication round the Island	1,786	1,727	59	—
Steam communication with Halifax	833	—	833	—
Subsidy to West India and Panama Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Colonisation of immigrants	60	3,822	—	3,762
Registrar-General's department	2,939	2,945	—	6
Island Record Office	1,257	1,021	236	—
Printing and stationery department	6,336	6,548	—	212
Institute of Jamaica	942	1,049	—	107
Board of supervision	485	395	90	—
Public gardens and plantations	5,070	4,796	274	—
Jamaica railway	33,167	32,064	1,103	—
Maintenance of lands	167	99	68	—
Miscellaneous	7,165	7,035	130	—
Public works	55,180	59,963	4,217	—
Lighthouses	2,452	1,355	1,097	—
Repatriation of Jamaicans	4,559	—	4,559	—
	—	—	24,926	5,844
Total	524,599	505,517	19,082	—
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.				
Parochial roads	51,639	47,799	3,840	—
Kingston streets	892	1,115	—	223
Parochial municipal objects	6,720	8,403	—	1,683
Parochial general purposes	2,387	2,635	—	248
Relief of poor	38,566	35,623	2,943	—
Sanitary appropriation	8,241	8,571	—	390
Fire appropriation, Kingston	1,147	1,314	—	167
Gas appropriation, Kingston	3,041	1,897	1,144	—
Victoria Institute, Westmoreland	—	125	—	125
Total	—	—	7,927	2,776
Total expenditure from appropriated revenues	112,633	107,482	5,151	—
Total immigration expenditure	8,973	4,553	4,420	—
Total general expenditure	524,599	505,517	19,082	—

The general expenditure of the Colony shows an increase of 19,082*l.* The largest items of increase are under Debt, 5,674*l.*, due to an increase of debt under Law 37 of 1887, and to expenses in connexion with conversion of debentures into inscribed stock; Pensions 1,538*l.*, due to new pensions granted, and to transfer from police pension fund to general revenue of pensions of Major Prenderville and Mr. Mitchell; Education, 2,318*l.*, consequent on the larger earnings by schools of grants-in-aid, which are paid on the result of the work done in the schools; Public Works, 4,217*l.*, due mainly to flood damages; Repatriation of Jamaicans from the Isthmus of Panama, 4,559*l.*; Lighthouses, 1,097*l.*, due to improve-

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ments of lights and works; and Railway, 1,103*l.*, due to increase in traffic, and to compensation paid for accidents.

There was, however, a decrease under Colonisation of Immigrants of 3,762*l.*, owing to a larger number of coolies having elected to return to India in 1887–8 than had been anticipated.

The expenditure from appropriated revenues shows a net increase of 5,151*l.*, due to repairs of flood damages to roads, poor relief, and to extended street lighting in Kingston.

The excess of immigration expenditure over the estimate is on account of return passages, the number having been greater than was expected, as has been above explained under the item "colonisation of immigrants."

Pensions.

During the year pensions, amounting in all to 1,289*l.* 18*s.* 3½*d.*, were granted under the provisions of the Jamaica Pension Law 34 of 1885, and the resolution of the Legislative Council of 23rd October 1885; and the pensions to two police officers, amounting to 434*l.* 18*s.* which were formerly paid from the constabulary pension fund, were made charges against general revenue, while the pension list was reduced to the extent of 556*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* by deaths, &c.

Debt.

During the year 4,100*l.* were raised under Law 16 of 1887, and 28,000*l.* under Law 36 of 1888, in both cases for railway purposes, as well as 55,200*l.* uuder Law 20 of 1888, on account of the conversion of the Rio Cobre Canal Debentures. In the case of the railway loans the tenders were not in any case below par, while in the other cases the premium ranged from ⅛ to 1 per cent.

1,000*l.* of debentures under Law 8 of 1871 was paid off from general revenue during the year, and the following amounts were redeemed from the sinking funds provided for the purpose, namely:—200*l.*, under 26 Vict. c. 20.; 8,450*l.*, under 27 Vict. c. 37.; 2,550*l.*, under 27 Vict. c. 24.; 700*l.*, under Law 12 of 1879; and 1,700*l.*, under Law 19 of 1880.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last 10 years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1880 - - -	721,481	6	8
1881 - - -	920,924	19	4
1882 - - -	1,238,750	0	0
1883 - - -	1,257,916	2	1
1884 - - -	1,243,899	18	9
1885 - - -	1,427,458	14	2
1886 - - -	1,478,790	3	8
1887 - - -	1,491,993	3	9
1888 - - -	1,502,684	9	8
1889 - - -	1,506,883	6	1

Of the above amount of debt on 30th September last 523,695*l.* was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction, and extension, and 55,200*l.* on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by the general revenue raised on account of the several undertakings specified :—

	£
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	128,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council, which was in session at the commencement of the year under review, was adjourned on the 30th November 1889.

On the 31st January the Officer Administering the Government dissolved the Council by proclamation, and writs were then issued for a general election, which took place between the 12th and 19th March. All the former members were returned without opposition except the Honourable Wm. Malabre, who had declined to stand for re-election, and whose place as member for Kingston and St. Andrew was filled by the Honourable C. J. Ward after a contested election. The Honourable C. B. Mosse, C.B., Superintending Medical Officer, and the Honourable T. Capper, Inspector of Schools, were re-appointed as nominated members.

On the 24th April 1889 the new Council assembled and was, on the following day, adjourned to the 14th May for the purpose of affording members time for consideration of the proposed sale of the railway to a private company. It accordingly reassembled on the day fixed, and was finally adjourned on the 12th June.

A special meeting of Council was held on the 25th July to consider the tenders for the renewed West India Mail Service by the Royal Mail and Atlas Steamship Companies, and was adjourned on the same day.

During the absence from the Island of Colonel W. C. Justice, Senior Military Officer, Colonels W. FitzHenry Spaight, R.E., and F. B. P. White were, on the 1st and 29th October 1888, sworn in respectively, and took their seats accordingly as ex-officio members. Colonel Justice resumed his seat on the 25th July 1889.

The Honourable Thomas Capper left the Island on leave of absence subsequent to the close of the first part of the session, and Mr. Robert Batten, Collector General, was appointed a nominated member of Council during his absence, and was sworn in and took his seat on the 25th April 1889.

The Honourable J. P. Clark, who had been elected member for Manchester in the room of the Honourable J. T. Palache, who resigned, was sworn in and took his seat on the 1st October 1888.

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On the 5th June 1889 the Honourable R. Craig, member for Clarendon, obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Civil Establishment.

Governor Sir Henry Norman, having been appointed to be Governor of Queensland, left Jamaica on the 2nd of January. The administration of the Government was thereupon assumed by Colonel William Clive Justice, C.M.G., Senior Military Officer in command of Her Majesty's troops.

I arrived in the Island on the 9th March 1889, and immediately entered upon the dutes of my office of Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica and its dependencies.

Sir A. G. Ellis, Chief Justice, was granted leave of absence on the 17th December 1888, and Mr. Justice Curran, Senior Puisne Judge, appointed to act as Chief Justice, Mr. W. J. Anderson, Resident Magistrate for Kingston, acting as a Puisne Judge from the 19th March 1889.

Mr. Robert Batten was appointed to act as Collector General on the 10th December 1888, which appointment was confirmed on the 13th February 1889, and Mr. B. C. Orgill, chief clerk in the Collector General's office, promoted to be supervisor of Revenue Offices on the 13th March 1889, having previously acted in the same capacity from the 10th December 1888.

Mr. W. J. Anderson, Resident Magistrate for the conjoint parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew, was appointed to the former parish upon a division of the two under section 3 of Law 43 of 1887, and Mr. John T. Musson was thereupon appointed Resident Magistrate of St. Andrew, 16th October 1888.

Public Works.

The total expenditure under all heads (except the railway) has been 94,824*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* 33,919*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* was expended on main roads and bridges, and 60,904*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* in salaries and services, maintenance &c. of public buildings, lighthouses, Rio Cobre Canal works, &c.

The cost of maintenance of main roads and bridges was 30,291*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* Severe storms and floods occurred in certain districts of the Island, causing serious damage to many of the main roads and in some places interrupting traffic altogether for a time. In the parish of Portland in particular, the frequent heavy rains in addition to the very heavy fruit traffic rendered it almost impossible to maintain the roads in good travelling condition.

The average cost of main roads and bridges per mile was 38*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, being considerably in excess of the average cost for the last five years, which was 34*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* Some additions were made to the schedule of main roads during the year, and works of

improvement were carried out on existing main roads, including the building of bridges and the improving of river crossings.

Portions of the ironwork for bridging the larger rivers in the parishes of St. Thomas and Portland and St. Mary along the line of main road, arrived during the year, and the work of constructing the bridges has progressed favourably.

The expenditure for maintenance and repairs of public buildings amounted to 11,310*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and was for the usual maintenance of churches, court-houses, constabulary stations, public offices, prisons, hospitals, and asylums, &c. This amount also includes the cost of maintenance in good order of 507 miles 10 chains of telegraph lines at an average cost of 3*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* per mile.

New works have been carried out at many of the court-houses and public offices, constabulary stations and prisons, as well as at the hospitals and the lunatic asylum. A mortuary with a post-mortem room was erected at the asylum, the female B ward (south range) was re-modelled, and other improvements in the drainage, &c. of the institution were carried out.

The wharf at the Lazaretto, Green Bay, was extended, and a new 5,000 gallon concrete water tank provided.

The buildings of the Plumb Point Lighthouse were repaired and painted generally. The light at Folly Point has been maintained efficiently; a wall has been erected to protect it from high seas in rough weather. A third order holophotal revolving light apparatus was erected at the Morant Point Lighthouse, and has worked satisfactorily. A concrete store for oil has been made, and the building generally repaired and painted.

The cadastral map of the parish of St. James was in course of preparation.

Parochial works, such as the construction and repair of roads and bridges, have also been carried out by the Public Works Department at the request of the parochial authorities, and the officers of the Department have reported and advised on many other parochial works.

The Public Works Store Department has worked satisfactorily, and after paying salaries and labour bills amounting to 1,525*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, there has been a net profit of 316*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* on the year's transactions.

Lands.

During the year upwards of 741 acres of land were taken possession of under Law 43 of 1887, and proceedings were commenced for the forfeiture of 23,100 acres for non-payment of the quit-rent and land tax. The amount realised by the sale and lease of Government lands was 2,901*l.* 7*s.*

Surveys were made for various purposes, and plans of lands purchased, leased, or sold were prepared, as well as other plans and maps, and many investigations respecting lands liable to forfeiture were made.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The expenditure for management and maintenance of these works amounted to 1,626*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, being 48*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* less than the sum voted. The cost of the works for the previous six years averaged 1,498*l.* per annum. The earnings amounted to 2,317*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, and the sum collected to 2,419*l.* 18*s.* 9½*d.* The collections in the previous six years were equivalent to 2,254*l.* per annum.

The demand for water has remained practically stationary, the increase in the collections being due to the increase in the charge for water supplied to the Spanish Town waterworks.

The works were in fair order at the close of the year.

Island Telegraphs.

The gross receipts during the year amounted to 4,794*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, showing an increase of 346*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* over those of the previous year. The expenditure was 4,441*l.* 9*s.*, being 228*l.* 13*s.* 8½*d.* in excess of that for 1887–88; the chief increase 139*l.* 13*s.* 8½*d.* was under the head of "services."

The number of messages sent and received during the year was 86,604, an increase of 5,575 over the number sent and received during 1887–8.

The inland telegraph wires were used for forwarding foreign telegrams on account of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company to the number of 1,103, and to the amount of 2,256*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, the figures for the previous year having been 1,135 and 2,234*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* respectively.

A telegraph station was opened at St. Margaret's Bay in the parish of Portland on the 13th of February 1889.

The School of Telegraphy, established during 1887–88, continued to work satisfactorily, and to meet the object for which it was intended.

Railways.

The gross receipts for the year amounted to 60,818*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure, exclusive of interest and sinking fund on debt, to 32,321*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, leaving a net revenue of 28,497*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*

The gross receipts exceeded those of last year by 5,172*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* This increase was mainly from goods traffic, and was due to the increased rates which came into force at the commencement of the financial year.

The net receipts show an increase of 7,207*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, the expenditure having been 2,034*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* less than that of last year.

The receipts per mile of railway amounted to 950*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* and the expenditure to 505*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*, against receipts of 869*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* and expenditure of 536*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* last year. The earnings per train mile were 5*s.* 3·72*d.*, and the expenditure 2*s.* 9·86*d.*, in the previous

year they were 5*s.* 8·02*d.* and 3*s.* 5·99*d.* respectively. The number of train miles run was 229,091, or 32,766 miles more than in 1887–88.

The following statement shows the receipts during the year as compared with those of the four preceding years :—

——	1888–89.	1887–88.	1886–87.	1885–86.	1884–85.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Goods and cattle -	33,756 15 10	29,811 15 3	23,286 15 2	16,959 10 3	13,484 15 7
Passengers - -	20,945 7 10	20,849 19 9	17,783 9 6	15,017 9 8	14,977 18 3
Wharf - - -	5,407 8 6	4,302 18 11	2,779 11 1	2,071 15 2	1,885 4 5
Miscellaneous - -	709 4 11	681 6 3	420 15 1	723 12 8	1,610 14 0
Total - -	60,818 17 1	55,646 0 2	44,270 10 10	34,772 7 9	31,958 12 3

264,853, passengers were carried during the year, a falling off of 20,070 compared with 1887–88.

The line, rolling stock, stations, and bridges were maintained in good order. Every part of the line is now laid with 60 lb. steel rails, except the first three miles of the Ewarton line. A covered platform 80 feet long was constructed in front of the waiting rooms at the Kingston station, the goods shed was widened, a siding 13 chains long was laid at the Princes Wharf, and other improvements in the accommodation at the Kingston and the Grange Lane stations were carried out.

Botanical Department.

Much useful work has been accomplished by the department during the year in the planting, sale, and distribution of plants and seeds. At the Hope Garden, which is intended, when fully laid out, to form the chief garden instead of Castleton, and which is already the chief centre of sale and distribution, 22,507 plants were sold and 1,731 plants distributed free during the year, the total value of which, at the cheap rates at which they are offered to the public, was 172*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.* From a commercial point of view the total value is estimated at probably ten times this amount.

Two thousand five hundred trees were planted at Hope, and 6,019 seedling plants at the Hill Garden, cinchona in the latter case as an experiment in reforesting.

The existing cultivation of cinchona has been kept up and 7,456 pounds of the bark have been stored. A large quantity of febrifuge, which had been manufactured by the island chemist, was distributed by the superintending medical officer to the district medical officers for testing.

Much useful information has been afforded the public respecting economic and other plants by means of bulletins issued periodically by the department. A prize of 50*l.* for the best samples of

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tobacco grown in the British Colonies, which had been offered by the London Chamber of Commerce, was announced in a bulletin, and as a result of the notice thus given the prize was divided by Jamaica with Borneo.

Active steps were taken during the year to introduce and promote the cultivation of fibre plants. There is a considerable demand in the Island for plants of sisal hemp, and one dozen plants of Agave rigida, var. Elongata, were obtained from Yucatan through the aid of the British Consul at Progresso. Of another variety, sisilana, of the Agave rigida, which is devoid of spikes on the edges of the leaves, and is therefore cheaper to work up into fibre, 20,000 plants were obtained from Turks Islands. These plants are being propagated at the Hope Garden, and several applications for supplies of suckers have been received. Looking to the considerable fall that has taken place in the price of sisal hemp, the director advises that caution should be exercised in taking up the industry here.

Education.

The work of education during the year 1888–89, as shown in the following statistics, evidences continued improvement:—

Year.	Schools on Government List.	Schools inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in average Attendance.	Per-centage in average Attendance of Number on Books.	Class of Schools.					Not inspected.	Fees.	Grants in aid, including Building Grants.
						I.	II.	III.	F.	E.			
												£ s.	£ s.
1888-89	826	788	75,480	43,488	57·6	104	288	386	9	1	38	7,943 18	27,690 10
1887-88	771	756	71,643	41,920	58·5	100	280	362	8	6	15	7,904 11	24,895 4

With respect to average attendance and fees there is a falling off as compared with 1887–88. The Rev. William Simms, M.A., principal of the Jamaica High School, who assumed charge of the department on the 24th April last, when the Hon. T. Capper went on leave, and who was still in charge at the close of the year, thus remarks respecting these items:—"The falling off in the per-"centage of average attendance is from a year which was "exceptionally good, and is probably mere fluctuation," and "the "amount of fees paid per child in average attendance has fallen "from 3*s.* 9½*d.* to 3*s.* 7¾*d.*, a fact which emphasizes the necessity "of dealing with this branch of the school revenue." Respecting fees, I stated in my Report for 1887–88 that:—"The increase on "school fees paid this year, being more than 1,200*l.* above last "year's receipts and larger than in any previous year, is only in "proportion to the increase in the attendance, and gives no

"evidence of a more general appreciation by parents of their duty "in this respect," while in his Report for 1886–87 Sir Henry Norman wrote :—"The inspector reports a continued decrease in "the fees received from the maximum reached in 1883–84." It will be seen, therefore, that the results, as regards fees, of the year 1887–88 were but a temporary arrest of a downward tendency.

In other respects the results of the year are satisfactory, and there is a striking contrast between the present state of elementary education in the Colony and that existing 21 years ago, at the inception of the present system, as shown below :—

Year.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in average Attendance.	Schools inspected.	Class of Schools.				
				1.	2.	3.	Exceptional.	Failures.
1866-67 -	19,000	12,000	286	1	6	89	—	190
1888-89 -	75,480	43,488	788	104	288	386	1	9

Of the present schools, Mr. Simms claims that those of the first class are all good, of the second satisfactory, and of the third good in the majority of cases. He remarks also on the rapidly increasing advance in numbers of schools and scholars; the growing efficiency of the latter; the improvement in teachers owing to the various changes introduced by the present inspector, as well as in the officering and work of training colleges as the result of increased help from Government.

There is still an almost total want of industrial schools, a want which has engaged my serious attention, and which I am endeavouring to meet to a great extent by special grants-in-aid. Ordinary schools under one teacher are often far too large to be taught satisfactorily, while there are no separate elementary girl schools, and nowhere any graded schools in large towns under a union of the managers. The appliances in most schools are miserably poor and the teaching and its results still of too mechanical a character. The improvement in all respects shewn by a comparison of past years gives, however, great ground for anticipating that all these hindrances to progress will be overcome.

It is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the graded character of the examinations of pupil teachers of elementary schools, and of teachers and students of training colleges, the per-centage of passes is proportionately higher as regards the second than the first, and the third than the second, year of examination. Among pupil teachers 70 per cent. of third year students passed, 63 per cent. of second year, and 58 of first; although these students were, under new regulations, now for the first time required to pass in every subject, causing several to fail who would formerly have passed. These results illustrate not merely the increasingly good

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work done in our elementary schools and training colleges, but tend to show, where deficiency exists, that it is rather due to the past training than to the lack of mental power in the classes chiefly served by these educational means, just as the results in this Colony of higher education under thoroughly competent masters has evidenced the capacity of its middle class.

Of 39 maintenance scholarships given to voluntary training colleges, 23 were awarded to those of the Moravian body, one especially zealous in educational matters, while 11 were gained by female training colleges. The Government training college (the results of the last year's examination of which show a continued improvement over those of previous years) has now 13 of its former students engaged in tuition. The increase in the number of trained female teachers is a great step in advance, and will render easy the formation of separate girls' schools. Such schools are desirable in many respects; in none more so than in the emulation between the sexes, both as regards teachers and trained, which may be expected from their formation.

Immigration.

There were 461 East Indian immigrants serving under indenture in this Colony at the end of the calendar year 1889, up to which date the Protector makes up his annual report. 2,385 immigrants were in course of completing their residence of ten years, while there were 10,195 who had completed that term. In all, on the 31st December last there were in the Colony about 13,041 immigrants.

The death rate amongst indentured immigrants during the year was 2·66 per cent. as against 2·28 per cent. the year before, and the birth-rate *nil* against 2·09 per cent. in 1888.

There were no murders amongst the East Indian population during the year, and on the 30th September 1889, 25 East Indians were undergoing imprisonment, or one in every 500 of their number. The proportion of lunatics was one in every 305, a large proportion, which the Protector attributes in part to the immoderate use of ganjah or Indian hemp.

No time-expired immigrants have been returned to India during the year, but the indentures of the 461 East Indians under indenture on the 31st December last have since expired, and many of them will shortly be repatriated. No immigrants were introduced during the year, although numerous applications for them were received from proprietors of banana plantations, as well as of sugar estates, by whom about 3,000 additional labourers are required.

The period of indenture of the Chinese immigrants has expired, but a few individuals were, when the Protector reported, still making good time lost to employers. The introduction of these immigrants has not been a success.

On the other hand, the East Indian immigrants continue to give satisfaction to their employers, and to prosper. The cultivation of rice, which was started by them in Westmoreland some years ago, has expanded considerably. The investments in the savings bank of 703 coolie depositors, six-sevenths of whom were labourers, amounted on the 30th September last to 16,458*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, and a sugar estate in St. Mary was bought in 1889 by an East Indian immigrant for 2,700*l.*

Emigration.

During the year ended 30th September 1889, 3,184 labourers left this island for the Isthmus of Panama and Port Limon and 11,671 returned therefrom, a difference in favour of the latter of 8,487, of whom only 686 were from Port Limon, while those returning from Panama, namely 10,985, were nearly six times as many as the number, 1,861, who arrived there from Jamaica during this particular year.

This was due to the cessation of work on the canal by the end of 1888, owing to the failure of the canal company. Thousands of Jamaicans were, with others, thrown out of employment and most of them speedily became destitute. Ordinary measures of relief being inadequate in such a case, Dr. Gayleard, an officer in the medical service of the Colony, was, in February 1889, entrusted with the mission of proceeding to Panama to report on the condition of the Jamaica labourers, and to provide, at the cost of this Government, for the relief and repatriation of the really destitute. He was recalled at the end of March, as the more serious phase of the distress appeared somewhat relieved by the repatriation of 2,197 persons, but, owing to renewed representations from trustworthy sources, that distress continued to prevail on the Isthmus amongst the Jamaicans, he was again sent there in April, with instructions to require persons seeking repatriation to enter into bond to repay the cost of their passage after their arrival in Jamaica. 1,415 persons were repatriated under these conditions. A special session of the Legislative Council, held on the 24th and 25th April to consider this matter, confirmed the action of the Government, but added the precaution of requiring the detention of the baggage of the persons repatriated until their passage money had been repaid. 3,632 people were brought back under these conditions, but a large number of them left their baggage unredeemed, and it was eventually released to them.

Repatriation ceased by the end of May, when over 6,000 natives of the Colony were estimated to be still resident on the Isthmus of Panama. During the remainder of the year under review emigration to Panama and Port Limon was almost at a standstill.

Mr. C. Mallet, the Consul at Colon, rendered valuable service to this Government, in connexion with the arrangements for relieving the distress of the Jamaica labourers and providing for their repatriation.

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Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows for the last 10 years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1879-80	7,297	333,970
1880-81	7,970	342,339
1881-82	9,543	324,847
1882-83	11,925	325,705
1883-84	13,601	350,546
1884-85	15,511	360,190
1885-86	16,320	363,292
1886-87	17,047	363,481
1887-88	18,311	393,250
1888-89	18,496	408,213

showing an increase of 14,963*l.* in the amount of the deposits and of 185 in the number of depositors.

In the above amount of deposits are included five deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration Return Passage Fund -	4,436	10	0
Constabulary Reward Fund - -	768	2	5
Sinking funds - - - -	648	11	2
Constabulary Pension Fund - -	638	16	8
Smith and Beckford's Charity - -	32	16	3

There were also 193 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery suits, Administrator General, and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 33,539*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* The remaining 18,496 accounts, representing 369,473*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, are all ordinary savings bank deposits.

Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 12,051 were for 5*l.* and under, and 1,098 were for over 100*l.*

The assets of the bank at 30th September last were distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	Stock. £	s.	d.
Consols, 2¾ per cent. -	-		-	20,405	0	6
Inscribed Stock:—						
Canada 3 per cent. -	26,289	12	6			
„ 3½ „ -	2,997	0	8			
Cape of Good Hope, 4 per cent - -	47,766	6	8			
Ceylon, 4 per cent. -	14,400	0	0			
New South Wales, 3½ per cent. - -	33,723	8	3			
Victoria, 4 per cent. -	11,837	19	8			
				137,014	7	9
Debentures:—						
Canada, 4 per cent. -	52,000	0	0			
New South Wales, 5 per cent. - -	1,200	0	0			
New South Wales, 4 per cent. - -	58,800	0	0			
South Australia, 6 per cent. - -	500	0	0			
South Australia, 4 per cent. - -	52,800	0	0			
Victoria, 4½ per cent. -	9,500	0	0			
„ 4 „ -	36,300	0	0			
				211,100	0	0
Jamaica, 4 per cent. -	25,000	0	0			
„ 5 „ -	830	5	8			
				25,830	5	8
Cost of purchasing stock	-		-	1,361	5	1
Cash on deposit in the Colonial Bank -				13,825	18	5
„ in office - -	-		-		2	0
Total -	-		-	409,536	19	5

During the year 4,084 accounts were opened and 3,899 closed, showing a decrease of 16 in the number of accounts open.

The number of deposits amounted to 30,671, and withdrawals to 32,910, representing respectively 230,706*l.* and 227,115*l.*, showing in each case a considerable increase on the transactions of the previous year.

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 13,624*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, while the revenue realised was 16,166*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, thus showing a net profit of 2,523*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* on the year's transactions.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows:—

	£
1879–80	1,475,197
1880–81	1,392,699
1881–82	1,321,962
1882–83	1,625,411
1883–84	1,568,639
1884–85	1,487,833
1885–86	1,325,603
1886–87	1,322,336
1887–88	1,695,605
1888–89	1,597,600

thus showing a decrease in the year under review of 98,005*l.* on comparison with the value of imports in the previous year, which it will be seen, however, was much above the average.

The value of goods entered for home consumption amounted to 1,562,923*l.*, being 169,192*l.* below that in the preceding year, but 97,676*l.* in excess of the average of the four preceding years, and is classed thus:—

	1888–89.	1887–88.
	£	£
Ad valorem goods	680,743	795,756
Rated goods	693,152	653,579
Free goods	189,027	282,780

The large falling-off in the importation of goods paying *ad valorem* duty is chiefly on account of cotton-manufactures, drugs and medicines, haberdashery and millinery, hardware and cutlery, linen manufactures, Oznaburgh silk and silk manufacture, unenumerated manufactured goods and woollen manufactures. These decreases are almost entirely in dress fabrics, and are directly traced to the large stocks duty, paid at the end of the preceding year, which were held in hand during the earlier part of the year 1888–89.

The imports were drawn from the several countries in the following proportions:—

	1888–89.	1887–88.
United Kingdom	55·0	62·8
Canada	9·2	6·6
United States	33·9	27·7
Other countries	1·9	2·9

showing an increase in the proportion from the United States, and a decrease in that from the United Kingdom.

The following table, showing the value of imported articles which are freed from the duty in the tariff under Law 11 of 1867, is given in continuation of similar tables in previous Reports:—

——	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	7,306	2,802	20,709	10,380	14,199	12,604
Mills	5,724	2,661	1,702	2,203	1,563	2,516
Other machinery	3,402	3,323	5,075	3,260	5,324	6,618
Pans for boiling sugar	2,124	6,132	1,190	809	2,025	1,067
Pipes for fluids	1,193	1,435	1,534	2,600	3,512	4,358
Stills	433	696	5,217	1,777	1,489	312
Shooks of all sorts	7,460	8,488	4,370	12,424	13,724	13,520
Staves	4,524	10,519	3,299	10,645	6,148	10,590
Wood hoops	1,643	1,919	756	1,932	1,923	1,047
Iron, galvanized	2,097	974	5,156	3,595	9,469	8,649
,, other manufactures	—	1,344	4,964	14	433	1,109
Miscellaneous	4,689	4,592	7,443	5,015	7,118	5,242
	40,798	64,885	61,415	54,654	66,927	67,632

(*Continued.*)

——	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines	9,268	10,704	4,287	4,569	13,389
Mills	862	257	564	722	1,756
Other machinery	2,509	3,553	2,442	12,569	5,570
Pans for boiling sugar	—	201	435	203	415
Pipes for fluids	2,365	8,205	3,472	3,028	2,531
Stills	72	1,102	998	345	277
Shooks of all sorts	11,588	7,149	13,649	17,974	9,973
Staves	9,052	3,375	3,822	4,952	983
Wood hoops	1,107	855	978	1,841	797
Iron, galvanised	4,758	3,132	3,036	3,147	5,582
,, other manufactures	—	—	—	683	659
Miscellaneous	4,854	4,339	2,608	4,443	4,961
	46,435	42,872	36,291	54,476	46,893

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The value of the exports in each of the last 10 years is shown below :—

Year.	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1879–80 - -	1,427,144	85,834	1,512,978
1880–81 - -	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82 - -	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058
1882–83 - -	1,365,868	103,578	1,469,446
1883–84 - -	1,350,900	33,089	1,483,989
1884–85 - -	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885–86 - -	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886–87 - -	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887–88 - -	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888–89 - -	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824

Thus showing a falling off by 159,941*l.* in Island produce exported and of 53,825*l.* in goods re-exported. The falling off in Island produce exported is chiefly in cocoanuts, coffee, bananas, oranges, rum, sugar, and yams. These are the principal staples of the Island, but last year, with which these returns are compared, was a specially prosperous year and a comparison with the aggregate values of the four preceding years will show favourably for the year under review.

The value of the several articles of island produce bear the following per-centage proportion to the total export value :—

——	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.
Sugar - - -	31·7	26·1	18·8	19·8	17·3	16·3
Rum - - -	16·3	19·8	17·1	22·6	12·2	9·1
Coffee - - -	7·3	13·3	11·1	15·6	19·3	19·4
Dyewoods - -	10·3	13·2	18·1	14·4	21·2	25·0
Fruit - - -	20·3	15·4	22·5	16·2	21·6	20·3
Pimento - -	6·9	4·5	4·3	3·4	2·7	3·2
Other produce - -	7·2	7·7	9·1	8·0	5·7	6·7

The exports of the principal staples for the last 10 years is shown in the following table :—

—	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Sugar - - hhds.	32,117	21,056	38,392	30,783	29,427
Rum - - phns.	18,586	13,952	22,742	20,085	20,364
Coffee - - lbs.	10,188,897	9,846,096	7,418,638	9,448,100	4,295,994
Pimento - - lbs.	10,215,479	6,058,264	8,514,517	9,551,630	12,372,863
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	48,024	45,459	33,409	33,108	46,724
Ginger - - lbs.	889,847	751,494	608,384	836,839	1,359,321
Arrowroot - lbs.	4,480	1,888	5,116	2,515	3,655
Fruit, value - £	51,295	44,216	124,269	132,962	253,021

(*continued*).

—	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sugar - - hhds.	24,986	16,460	23,043	24,524	16,163
Rum - - phns.	20,805	14,763	24,126	18,684	13,749
Coffee - - lbs.	9,033,606	6,150,960	6,337,742	11,084,080	9,485,960
Pimento - - lbs.	6,794,078	6,919,087	7,335,712	7,454,608	5,172,153
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	57,533	65,082	63,114	103,364	116,247
Ginger - - lbs.	9,379,056	1,193,158	1,111,926	1,144,864	1,092,653
Arrowroot - lbs.	1,008	1,010	1,693	3,092	836
Fruit, value - £	181,650	231,522	215,583	337,403	303,910

The exports from the Colony during the past nine years were distributed among the different countries in the following proportions :—

—	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
United Kingdom -	66·5	62·5	54·46	43·4	37·2	39·7	38·6	40·2	37·3
Dominion of Canada - -	6·2	12·9	16·66	13·4	5·4	3·5	1·3	1·6	2·3
United States -	18·9	17·8	10·07	31·1	42·2	44·0	43·9	43·0	50·2
Other Countries -	8·4	6·8	6·81	12·1	15·2	12·8	16·2	15·0	10·2

Showing a brisk trade with the United States owing chiefly to the development of the fruit industry.

Agriculture.

The last year, 1887–88, is described by the collector general in his annual report for 1888–89, as "an abnormally prosperous year"; the fact therefore that the exports in that year were greater than in the year under report, gives no cause for concern as to the agricultural prospects of the colony, on the contrary in the value of this year's exports, when set aside [of] the average of the four previous years, a decided advance is manifest.

The falling off both in the quantities and values of exports this year occurred principally under rum, sugar, coffee, bananas, oranges, yams and cocoanuts, which are here placed in order of their comparative decrease in value.

The acreage under canes was three per cent. less than in the previous year. The decrease in the area of land under this cultivation has been of long continuance. For the 10 years from 1878–79 it was 24 per cent., or 2·4 per cent. per annum, and for the 20 years from 1868–69, 32 per cent., or 1·6 per annum.

The acreage and yield of coffee have slightly increased, while prices have considerably decreased. The export value of fruit is 20·3 of total exports, as compared with 21·6 in the previous year; a large falling off occurs both in the quantities and values of oranges; much of this is no doubt due to the want of care in the picking and packing of the fruit, thus affecting the demand for them.

The falling off under yams, which is by more than three-fourths of the whole exported quantity, is attributable to the cessation of work on the Panama canal and the consequent repatriation of the Jamaica labourers employed there, this article of export having been shipped chiefly for their consumption.

The cultivation of cocoa continues to show an upward tendency though its export value has somewhat decreased.

Police.

The police force on the 30th September 1889 consisted of 1 inspector general, 14 inspectors, 4 sub-inspectors, 117 sub-officers and 560 men, being a total of 696 of all ranks, or five below the allowed strength for the year; the strength of the rural police was 773, giving an effectual police establishment at the end of the year of 1,469. 111 men were enrolled, and 115 discharged or dismissed from the force. Gratuities and pensions, amounting to 517*l.* odd, were granted to 26 of the men discharged.

The regular police were distributed as follows during the year: 182 in Kingston, 435 in the 13 other parishes, 60 being under training at the depôt at Spanish Town.

The services rendered by the police during the year as compared with the four previous years are as follow :—

——	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information -	5,106	5,148	4,849	5,334	4,218
Number of persons apprehended on warrants	1,394	1,753	1,729	1,674	1,873
Number of search warrants executed -	64	85	82	75	102
Number of persons summoned - -	11,452	—	12,956	14,297	14,018
Number of persons subpœnaed - -	15,112	11,707	17,832	22,472	21,702
Number of seizures under revenue laws - -	587	333	393	465	225
Number of post-mortems ordered - -	270	337	338	319	388
Number of prisoners escorted - -	7,068	9,798	9,081	8,050	8,796

The operation of the new rural police law has been satisfactory.

The criminal returns for the year show only four cases of murder, including child murder, the cases in the previous year having been 15, this, however, was an unusually large number. One of these cases was discharged and one was abandoned in the Superior Court. One was convicted and one remained undisposed of at the end of the year. There were 20 cases of manslaughter or seven more than in the preceding year; of this number nine were convicted, nine acquitted and two remained over.

Of other offences against the person the returns show six cases of concealment of birth, the same number as last year.

There were 356 cases of cutting and wounding, or 134 in excess of the preceding year, and much in excess of the cases for recent years; many of the cases however were trivial, and none of them were very aggravated ; 218 of these were convicted.

Of the six cases of shooting with intent, there was only one conviction. Rape and assault with intent to commit rape numbered 34 and 24 respectively; 10 of the former and nine of the latter were convicted. It is satisfactory to note that unnatural offences decreased during the year; 10 of the 12 cases shown on the returns furnished by the Inspector-General of police were convicted.

Of the more serious offences against property committed with violence, breaking into dwelling-houses and stealing, and breaking into shops, warehouses, &c., and stealing, were the most common, and exceeded those in the two previous years: the figures being 168 against 148 in 1887–88, and 163 in 1886–87.

160 places were found by the police left open at night during the year under review, a smaller number than in other years, but the want of care on the part of owners of property in securing and guarding their premises is still very remarkable.

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Breaking into shops and stealing &c., in Kingston is attributed chiefly to the labourers who returned from the Isthmus of Panama in distress after the stopping of work on the canal, and many of whom loitered about the town for days and in many instances for weeks.

Of offences against property committed without violence, larceny of small stock, larceny from dwelling houses, shops, &c., larceny of dyewoods, ground provisions, simple larceny and larceny of money, receiving stolen goods, &c., show an increase compared with previous years.

The returns show 1,289 cases of prædial larceny, a large increase over the years 1886–87 and 1887–88, when the figures were 838 and 697 respectively.

This general increase in the number of larceny cases brought up is probably in a great measure due to the expeditious and satisfactory working of the new magistrates' courts, and not altogether to an actual increase in crime of this nature.

The crimes of arson and wilful damage to property show a decrease, but feloniously wounding horses, cattle, &c. show a slight increase over the previous year. There were 23 cases of forgery and offences against the currency, of which 18 were convicted.

The police rendered the usual good service in connexion with the vaccination, main road, sugar mills, birds and fish protection, weights and measures laws. The weights and measures throughout the island were periodically tested, the defective ones destroyed, and in many cases persons were prosecuted and convicted for using false weights and measures, 4,054 small sugar mills were inspected by the police, under the new law, during the year. 226 hackney carriage drivers were prosecuted for breaches of the hackney regulations, resulting in 191 convictions.

The dog nuisance in Kingston was much abated by the exertions of the police, 573 dogs having been captured.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in custody in all the prisons and gaols in the island on the 30th September 1889 was 890, an increase of 141 as compared with the previous year. The numbre in each of the last five years has been as follows:—

1885	782
1886	803
1887	795
1888	749
1889	890

It will thus be seen that the number of prisoners in custody during the year under review exceeded that of any of the four preceding years.

The daily average number of prisoners in all the prisons was 873 as against 773 last year.

The commitments to all the prisons during the year were 3,808, an increase of 657 compared with the previous year; this increase, it is believed, does not indicate an increase of crime but is mainly due to the greater facilities which the resident magistrates' courts afford for bringing minor criminals to justice, the greater increase having been in commitments for three months and less, while the increase in commitments for one year and more was comparatively small.

There were 1,242 reconvictions, or 239 more than in the previous year.

The work of enlarging the Saint Catherine district prison is progressing and arrangements have been made in the Middlesex and Surrey county gaol for separating juvenile prisoners from the older criminals.

From the report of the surgeon to the General Penitentiary it appears that 677 prisoners were treated in the hospitals of the institution and that 19 deaths occurred; 10 of these prisoners were in an impaired state of health when admitted to prison. There were 28 deaths in all the other prisons during the year. One sentence of capital punishment was carried out at the Middlesex and Surrey County gaol.

The net cost of the prisons was 14,211*l.* 2*s.* 9¾*d.* or 16*l.* 5*s.* 6¾*d.* per prisoner per annum, the figures for the previous year being 13,149*l.* 7*s.* 0¼*d.* and 17*l.* 0*s.* 2½*d.*, respectively. The gross earnings in cash were 14,211*l.* 2*s.* 9¼*d.*

The estimated value of labour yielding no return in money was 4,212*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*; in 1887–88 it was 4,028*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

The prisoners were employed as usual in brick-making, lime-burning, quarrying-stone, and in washing clothing. The value of washing done rose from 685*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* in 1887–88 to 722*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* in 1888–89.

School was held regularly in the General Penitentiary, St. Catherine, Falmouth, and Hanover District Prisons, and religious services were also conducted at the General Penitentiaries by the chaplains of the different denominations attached to the Institution.

Discipline continued to be well maintained.

The "Mark System," similar to that in force in the English convict prisons, came into operation in the General Penitentiary on the 1st October 1888, and has worked satisfactorily. Convicts enlarged on license reported themselves to the police regularly as a rule, according to the conditions of their licenses, but in the few cases where they failed to do so, the penalty of being returned to prison to complete the term of their sentence was strictly enforced.

The short-term prison at Morant Bay was closed at the end of the year.

A scheme for the formation of a prison service was prepared, and when brought into force will, it is thought, tend to greatly improve the class and training of subordinate officers.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population at the close of the year ended on the 30th September 1889 was 633,887, being an increase of 53,083 since the census of 1881.

The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths during the year was 8,170 as against 10,329 in the previous year, and shows a slight decrease compared with the average annual addition for the preceding eight years. A considerable gain of population was obtained by the excess of returns over departures in connexion with the Colon and Port Limon migration, the net gain in this way being 8,271. From these two sources the population has been increased by 16,441.

The births registered during the year amounted to 22,044, giving a rate of 35·3 per 1,000 of the population, a lower rate than the average of past years. Of this number 13,356 or 60·5 were illegitimate, the rate being about the same as last year's, but above the average of past years. The parish of St. Thomas showed the highest rate of illegitimacy, 74·3, and St. Andrew the lowest, 51·4 per cent.

The marriages registered during the year numbered 3,223, being a decrease compared with the previous year of 130. The per-centage of the illiterate persons among those married is 56·6 as against 57·3 last year.

13,874 deaths were registered, being in the proportion of 22·2 to each 1,000 of the estimated mean population, and showing an increase of 178 over the previous year. Kingston showed the highest death-rate, 35·8, and Manchester the lowest, 18·4. Of the total number of deaths registered during the year 10,970 or 79 per cent. were not medically certified.

174 births were registered in the Cayman Islands, 87 males and 87 females. The marriages numbered 44, and the deaths 33.

General.

The year 1887–8 marks the end of a period of depression. It opened with a deficit in public revenue of 12,628*l.*, and closed with a surplus of 30,054*l.*; this surplus had increased by the end of the year under review to 56,538*l.* The growth of prosperity thus indicated has been maintained and promises to continue.

The preceding précis of the reports of the various departments, which treat in detail of the different subjects under which the business of the island is classed, show how steady an improvement is maintained in every department. The number of schools has increased from 771 in 1888 to 826, and industrial schools are about to be erected at Hope Botanical Gardens for boys, and at Shortwood Female Training College for girls; the establishment of these schools will obviate the necessity of sending non-criminal waifs and strays to be brought up in the boys' or girls' reformatories, where they are exposed to the contaminating effects of association with vicious and criminal children. The Government Savings Bank shows an increase of 185 in the number of depositors

and of 14,963*l.* in the total amount of deposits. The fruit trade, especially that in bananas, is daily expanding, and to meet the wants of the local growers the telegraph system is being rapidly extended. The cultivation of sugar shows a decrease as steady as that of bananas shows an increase, and there seems every probability that the cultivation may be still further restricted. The cause of the abandonment of the estates is attributed to the low price of sugar and in some cases to the difficulty of obtaining labour. No doubt heavily incumbered sugar estates belonging to absentee owners do not pay under the present system of cultivation of the canes, and manufacture of sugar and rum. But with the separation of the business of manufacture from that of cultivation, and the concentration of the planter's attention on the improvement in the cultivation and the quality of the cane, sugar-growing would be a safe and profitable investment. It is much to be regretted that the cultivation of sugar estates should decrease, for the sugar cane, unlike the banana, cannot be destroyed by a hurricane, and thus offers a steady field for labour in the event of such a calamity. The difficulty of obtaining labour is no doubt serious; that there is difficulty is not to be attributed to the laziness of the population but rather to their determination to invest in land and to work upon it for their own profit. The consequence of this determination is a gradual migration from the plains to the hills, where land can more readily be secured, and where a very thriving peasant proprietary has sprung into existence, and these owners have become the principal producers of fruit.

But however satisfactory are the statistics of the Blue Book, they can give no idea of the value of Jamaica as a whole, or of the extreme beauty and great capabilities of the Island. Of the area of 4,193 square miles but 646 square miles are flat. The remainder is mountainous, and in the East the Blue Mountains attain the height of 7,000 feet. The mountains are composed of white and yellow limestone, carbonaceous shales, granitic and conglomerate rocks, with alluvial valleys. The climate is particularly healthy, if ordinary precautions, necessary in the tropics, are observed, and while in the mountainous interior the temperature ranges from 60° to 75°, even the tropical temperature of 80° to 85° near the sea level is assuaged by the sea breeze during the day, and the cool land breeze that at night flows down from the hills.

With such variety of temperature, aspect and soil, the range of productions is very wide, and the island offers excellent investments for agriculturists with comparatively small capital. Attempts have been made to introduce the cultivation of the Pita plant, now being so extensively cultivated in the Bahamas. I have no doubt that this will grow over a great portion of the white limestone country, and may be a valuable addition to the resources of the Island, as it is even less liable than the sugar cane to injury from possible hurricanes.

JAMAICA.

In the parish of Westmoreland and other western parishes a considerable area has been placed under rice, and crops of very good quality have been reaped. As Jamaica imports over seven millions of pounds of rice annually this cultivation may attain very large proportions.

It will be observed by the table of imports and exports that the importation of manufactured goods from the United Kingdom has decreased by 7·8 per cent. of the total imports, while those from the United States have increased by 6·2 per cent. and from Canada by 2·6 per cent. I observe that the importation of leather, boots, and shoes from the United Kingdom has decreased from 41,476*l.* in 1888 to 37,065*l.* in 1889, while the importation of those goods from the United States has increased from 3,903*l.* to 9,316*l.* In the same period the exports to the United Kingdom have increased by 2·9 per cent. of the whole, while those to the United States have decreased by 7 per cent.

Many companies have been formed during the year, among which is a fruit-trading company, composed entirely of small settlers. The future of this company will be instructive, as showing what power of active co-operation in business affairs exists among the black people. A saw-mills company has been formed in Manchester, and the foundation stone was laid of the first large hotel ever built in Jamaica. This hotel is now rapidly approaching completion, and will, I have no doubt, attract many visitors to Jamaica, from which travellers have hitherto been repelled for want of proper accommodation.

But the most important event of the year was the passing of the Jamaica Railway Company's Law, by which the existing lines, a good and paying property, were handed over to an American syndicate on certain conditions laid down in the law, one of which is the building of extensions to Montego Bay and Port Antonio, a distance of 125 miles. In the passing of this law I was a passive instrument as the conditions were arranged before I assumed this Government. In my opinion it would have been more prudent for this Government to have made the extensions; but the syndicate have shown their anxiety to perform their part of the contract faithfully, and the extensions must be of immense service to the island.

The militia force was reported to be in a fair state of efficiency. Especial interest was taken in musketry practice, and certificates of proficiency in different branches of military knowledge were granted to four officers. The numbers of all ranks at the close of the year were 618 on the active and 106 on the supernumerary list.

In September 1889, just before the close of the period treated of in this Report, the first steps were taken towards the holding of an exhibition in Kingston. The idea has been most warmly taken up in every part of the Island, and a sum of nearly 30,000*l.* has been guaranteed towards the expenses. Space has been applied for by several West Indian Colonies, by Canada, by England,

exhibitors from Scotland, Ireland, Germany and Russia, and in every part of Jamaica people were looking round to see in what way the resources of the Island may be developed. In Kingston all tradesmen are fully employed, houses are being built and repaired in every direction, and improvements are going on with unprecedented rapidity. I hope and believe that the exhibition will result in the development of the resources of Jamaica, and the attraction to this most beautiful and fertile Island of capital for investment and travellers for health and pleasure.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

King's House,
Jamaica, 21st July 1890.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 118.

ST. HELENA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

(For Report for 1888 *see* No. 58.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6221.-7.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,

No. 118.

ST. HELENA.

[For Report for 1888 *see* No. 58.]

The Officer Administering the Government to the Secretary of State.

The Castle, St. Helena,
June 7, 1890.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of this Island for the year 1889.

2. The returns, unhappily, exhibit no cessation of the decline which has now been going on for 20 years. Modern improvements in merchant shipping, which have largely contributed to the extraordinarily rapid growth of other Colonies, have had the opposite effect upon this island. The great prosperity which it formerly enjoyed was due to its being situated in the midst of the south-east trade wind, and directly in the track of sailing vessels coming round the Cape of Good Hope from India and the East. It had also the advantage that it is easier to make from the eastward than Table Bay. It has never produced any articles for export. The inhabitants used to find ample employment in supplying the requirements of the numerous ships which called here. But, when steamers began to be substituted for sailing vessels, and the Suez Canal was opened in 1869, fewer ships passed St. Helena; and of those which still pass the greater number are so well found that it is unnecessary for them to call. A further, and quite unexpected, blow was experienced, when Her Majesty's Government recently decided to withdraw the garrison of Imperial troops—a decision which was partially carried out in the year now under review.

3. The returns of the shipping, and of the receipts and expenditure of the Colonial Government, during the last 24 years, which are appended (*see* Appendices 1 and 2) to this report, will show more clearly than any description what a continuous and heavy decline there has been.

o 64790. Wt. 19305.

ST. HELENA.

"Calling" Ships.

4. In the three years preceding the opening of the Suez Canal, the number of ships which called here was at the rate of 896 a year; and 853 called in 1869, the year in which the Canal was opened. Ten years later, in 1879, the number had come down to 603. In 1889 only 288 ships called; of which 15 were men-of-war (nine British, three French, one Brazilian, and one Portuguese), 30 merchant steamers, 226 merchant sailing vessels, and 17 whalers from the Southern Whale Fishery. The falling off during the last 20 years has been proportionately larger in the case of British than of Foreign sailing vessels; which is perhaps due to the operation of the Plimsoll Acts.

"Passing" Ships.

5. The return which forms Appendix 1 includes all the ships which traded with the island from 1866 to 1885 inclusive: but since 1886 a certain amount of trade has also been done with "passing" ships, which are not included in the list of those which "called." Before 1886 no ship was allowed to have any communication with the island, except of course by signal, unless it had been boarded by the Harbour Master and he had given it pratique. Now, under the "Passing Ships Ordinance 1886," licensed boatmen are allowed, subject to certain restrictions, to communicate with ships which have not obtained pratique. A return has, therefore, been made out (*see* Appendix 3), which shews, not only the ships which obtained pratique and are described as having "called," but how many were sighted from the island, and how many of those sighted either called or traded with the licensed boatmen.

6. It will be seen that the number of ships trading with the boatmen is steadily increasing, the numbers being 109 in 1887, 166 in 1888, and 261 in 1889. The number of ships which were sighted in 1889 was 604, and of that number no less than 549 either called or traded without calling.

7. There can be no doubt that the facilities afforded by the Passing Ships Ordinance are convenient for vessels which want only a few potatoes or fresh vegetables, or to post letters, and do not care to incur the delay of "calling" here. Between October 1886 and February 1890, the number of letters received at the Post Office from passing ships was 1,023; and it is an important point in favour of the system that it secures the safe posting of any letters noted by a captain on the certificate which a boatman has to deliver to the Customs officers when he comes on shore.

8. There is, however, much controversy as to the effect of the ordinance upon the island. A commission, consisting of Mr. S. Solomon, Mr. Jas. Homagee, and Mr. H. B. Morrice, was appointed

in March of last year, to inquire into the working of the ordinance and its effect upon the revenue and upon the community generally: but, after taking evidence, the Commissioners were unable to agree upon a joint report. On the one hand, the ordinance has provided employment for between 20 and 30 boatmen, and the farmers appreciate the opportunity which the system gives them of selling their produce. But, on the other hand, as the trade to be done with a passing ship is necessarily limited, the increase under this head has not made up for the continued decline in the number of calling ships; and there are many persons who contend that the operation of the ordinance has been positively detrimental to the island, inasmuch as it is alleged that the boatmen often intercept vessels intending to call. It is, no doubt, the interest of the boatmen to induce ships to trade with them instead of calling and trading with the merchants on shore; and, possibly, on getting their requirements partially supplied by the boatmen, some captains do continue their voyage without waiting to obtain all that they would otherwise have taken. Unfortunately the matter does not admit of being settled by reference to statistics. In the three years, 1883–5, preceding the enactment of the ordinance, the average annual decrease in the number of calling ships was $15\frac{2}{3}$, or, if sailing vessels only be counted, 17; while for the three years, 1887–9, after the ordinance came into operation, the figures were respectively $29\frac{2}{3}$ and 25. This would seem to show that on an average eight sailing vessels have been intercepted in each year since 1886. But the ordinance did not come into force until October of that year, and only 19 vessels traded with the boatmen before the year ended. The average annual decrease in the number of calling ships in the three years 1884–6 was 48; and, even if all the 19 vessels had called, it would still have been $41\frac{2}{3}$. The available statistics may, therefore, be cited to prove, either that 12 ships more or 8 ships less have called in each year since the ordinance came into force.

9. I have referred at what may be thought disproportionate length to the operation of this ordinance; but, with the exception of the threatened withdrawal of the garrison, and perhaps the new Tax Ordinance, there is no question which has been more urgently pressed upon my attention during my stay in the island. The ordinance has not proved so beneficial as was anticipated when it was enacted; but I have not been convinced that it has done all the harm which its opponents attribute to it, and it would not now, in my opinion, be advisable, or even practicable, to repeal it. It appears to me that the best course to take with the object of getting more ships to call is to make it known as widely as possible that there are no dues to deter vessels from doing so, and that they will have their requirements supplied at moderate prices. The port is absolutely free to all vessels unless they land or ship cargo; and, although the high prices formerly charged by local merchants are still remembered against the island, the present charges, so far as I am able to judge, are not unreasonable.

Revenue and Expenditure.

10. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of 1889 divided under the principal heads:—

Revenue.	£	Expenditure.	£
Customs - - - -	4,891	Cost of administration - -	5,717
Taxes - - - -	955	Charge of debt - - -	1,199
Other sources, including rents of Government property - -	2,663	Pensions - - - -	2,063
	8,509		
Deficit - - - -	470		
Total - -	8,979	Total - - -	8,979

11. It will be seen that there was a deficit of 470*l.* in 1889. There was, however, a balance to the credit of the Colony at the beginning of the year, out of which the deficit was met; and at the end of the year there was still a balance in hand, the excess of assets over liabilities being 816*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*

Revenue.

12. The Customs duties are the principal source of revenue. They averaged 15,939*l.* a year in the three years preceding 1869, and in 1869 they amounted to 15,076*l.* By 1879 they had come down to 10,470*l.*; and in 1889 they were only 4,891*l.*

There has been practically no alteration in the rates since 1864: for, when tonnage dues were abolished in 1882, other charges, calculated to produce the same amount of revenue, were substituted for them. The falling off in the receipts is, therefore, entirely due to the decline in the shipping, aggravated in 1889 by the partial withdrawal of the troops, who are large consumers of dutiable goods.

13. The receipts from Customs in 1889 were 609*l.* less than the amount estimated, and 950*l.* less than the amount received in 1888. The quantity of spirits, wines, and beer, consumed in the island was less than in 1888, and the revenue under this sub-head decreased by 242*l.* There was also a decrease of 640*l.* under the sub-head of wharfage; the value of the local imports being only 28,963*l.* in 1889 as against 37,606*l.* in 1888, and only one vessel in distress landing cargo as against two in the previous year.

14. The revenue from other sources, including assessed taxes, licences, and rents of Government property, does not exhibit so great a falling off. It was 3,518*l.* in 1889, which was 93*l.* more than in 1888. In 1869 the receipts were 5,704*l.*, and 3,685*l.* in 1879.

Expenditure.

15. The expenditure of the Colonial Government, which in 1869 amounted to 24,626*l.*, had been reduced to 12,486*l.* in 1879, and in 1889 it was only 8,979*l.* It will be observed that of the sum of 8,979*l.* expended in 1889, no less than 3,261*l.*, or more than one-third, was for pensions and on account of the debenture debt. The whole cost of carrying on the Government, exclusive of those charges, was only 5,717*l.*; and this includes many expenses, *e.g.*, for water supply, sewerage, the maintenance of the wharf, and the repairs of the streets, which would in ordinary cases be defrayed by municipal bodies.

16. This result has only been obtained by the exercise of the most rigorous economy. For nearly 20 years every opportunity has been seized for abolishing offices or reducing salaries. The staff of public officers has now been reduced to the lowest possible point, and some of those employed in the more important posts are insufficiently paid. In many cases they only hold their appointments temporarily, and their service does not count for pension. The staff of the Colonial Hospital is insufficient for the proper discharge of the work which has to be performed; the sanitary condition of the town is not what it should be; and in the case of other services, although Mr. Grey Wilson has made the small sums at his disposal go farther than almost any one else could have done, there are many desirable improvements which it has not been possible to carry out.

Municipalities and other Local Bodies.

17. The only municipal institutions are the Poor Relief Board, the Public Market Committee, and the Board of Health.

18. The members of the Poor Relief Board are elected annually by the ratepayers. The amount raised by the Board in 1889 by means of rates on all houses and lands, supplemented by some small receipts from other sources, was 1,169*l.* The valuation of the properties on which the rate is assessed was in round numbers 96,000*l.*, and the rate varied from 5*s.* 4*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* a quarter on each 100*l.* The expenditure, which included the cost of maintaining the poor house and lunatic asylum, and of outdoor relief, was 1,157*l.* The board is not controlled in any way by the Government. At a meeting of the ratepayers, held on the 10th of April last, it was proposed that steps should be taken to have auditors appointed by the Government with powers similar to those of the Local Government Board in England: but the motion was defeated by a large majority.

ST. HELENA.

19. The Market Committee, like the Poor Relief Board, is, or should be, elected by the ratepayers. Two of the five members retire annually; but the ratepayers do not usually take sufficient interest in the matter to attend the election, and the vacancies have to be filled up by the Governor. For the same reason the Governor has usually to appoint the members of the Board of Health.

Taxation.

20. As compared with the United Kingdom, St. Helena is not heavily taxed. The amount raised by the Government, the Poor Relief Board, and the Market Committee, in 1889 from all sources was 9,422*l.*; which, if the population be taken at 5,000, is 1*l.* 17*s.* 8¼*d.* a head. If the population be taken at 4,000, the rate would be about 2*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* a head. In the United Kingdom the gross public revenue alone was 92,781,313*l.*; and, if the population be 38,000,000, the rate would be 2*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* a head. This is without reckoning the local taxation, which in England alone amount to between 14,000,000*l.* and 15,000,000*l.* a year, or about 10*s.* a head. It is, however, to be borne in mind that, while the United Kingdom is rich, St. Helena is poor; and it must be admitted that the existing taxation is as much as the island can bear.

21. The Customs Tariff compares not unfavourably with that of the United Kingdom. In the United Kingdom duties are levied upon twenty different articles; but in St. Helena the only articles upon which they are levied are tobacco, spirits, beer, and wine. In the following table the duties charged in St. Helena are compared with those charged upon the same articles in the United Kingdom:—

	St. Helena.	United Kingdom.
Tobacco, lb. - - -	6*d.* to 1*s.*	3*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Spirits, gallon - - -	10*s.*	10*s.* 4*d.*
Beer, 36 gallons - - -	12*s.* 8*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 30*s.* 6*d.*
Wine, gallon - - -	2*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* and upwards.

22. Among the ordinances passed in 1889 was one dealing with the levying and collection of taxes and rates, the enactment of which was regarded with apprehension and mistrust by many of the inhabitants. The object with which the ordinance was passed was twofold:—(1) to facilitate the collection and prevent the evasions of the dues levied under the Tax Ordinance of 1868; and (2) to give some slight relief to the poorer classes and to make up the difference by increasing, to the extent of the relief granted and no more, the taxation falling upon those better able to bear

it. It was estimated by Mr. Grey Wilson that the new ordinance would only directly affect the revenue to the extent of 20*l.*, but whether as a loss or a gain he could not say. As the ordinance only came into operation at the end of 1889, its effect will not be ascertained until the accounts for 1890 are made up. It deals with licences, taxes on houses and vehicles, and water rates; which yielded only 955*l.* between them in 1889. In so far as the ordinance prevents evasions, it will only affect any persons who previously paid less than they should have done; and the opposition with which it met would seem to have been mainly due to the fear that it was the precursor of other changes.

Public Debt.

23. The Public Debt at the end of the year amounted to 7,408*l.* Of that amount, 2,250*l.* is the balance, not yet paid off, of a loan which was raised in England between 1868 and 1872 for the reconstruction of public buildings destroyed by the white ant, which had been accidentally introduced into the island a few years previously. This loan bears interest at the rate of 7 per cent., and is being paid off by instalments of 1,000*l.* a year. The remainder of the debt, amounting to 5,158*l.*, is a sum which was voted by Parliament in the Supplementary Estimates of 1871–2 to pay off certain outstanding debts. As questions have been raised with regard to the liability of the Colony to repay this money, I take this opportunity of quoting the following note, which was appended to the Estimates, and is therefore the condition upon which the money was granted by Parliament:—"It is intended "that this advance (which is not to bear interest) should be "repaid by St. Helena in such instalments as, looking to the "financial condition of the Colony, the Secretary of State may "from time to time direct." Since that date, the Colony has not been able to repay any portion of the grant; but, on the contrary, a further grant of 5,500*l.*, was made by Parliament in 1875-7, without any condition of repayment, to enable the Colonial Government to pay off the accumulated deficits of several years.

Mail Service.

24. From 1883 to 1888 the mail steamers between England and the Cape of Good Hope called at St. Helena 13 times a year on the outward, and 26 times on the homeward, voyage; and compensation for these calls had to be paid to the Cape Government, by whom the contracts with the Steam Ship Companies were made. The Imperial Government paid for the outward calls; and the St. Helena Government paid for those in the other direction at the rate of 36*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* a call when the steamer called also at Ascension and 100*l.* when it called only at St. Helena. The annual cost to St. Helena was 1,776*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* To this must be added the cost of the "sea transit," payable to the Cape Government, which brought the cost of the homeward service up to nearly

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2,000*l.* a year. The Imperial Government, however, engaged to make good to the Colony any deficit in its finances which might be caused by this arrangement, without deducting the postage collected in St. Helena, which was retained by the Colonial Government. During the five years for which the arrangement lasted (*see* Appendix 4) the total cost of the homeward service was 9,848*l.*, of which sum 9,020*l.* was paid as a subsidy and 828*l.* for sea transit; and 9,875*l.* was received from the Imperial Exchequer in the form of grants-in-aid of the local revenue. Practically, therefore, the Imperial Government defrayed the whole of the charges for the mail service both outward and homeward; and in 1889 it was agreed that the sums payable to the Cape Government on account of the subsidy should be paid direct from the Imperial Exchequer instead of passing through the St. Helena accounts, but that the Colony should provide the sums payable for sea transit without the assistance of a grant-in-aid.

25. In the middle of the year, however, the Postmaster General made an arrangement with the Cape Government providing for the conveyance of the St. Helena and Ascension mails by what are known as the "intermediate" steamers instead of the steamers carrying the South African mails. This arrangement was made to prevent the South African mails from being delayed by the calls at St. Helena and Ascension, and in return for that advantage the Cape Government agreed to forego the contribution of 3,250*l.* a year which it had been receiving from the Imperial Government for permitting its contract steamers to call at the islands. The Steam Ship Companies receive the same subsidy as before, and the Imperial Government saves 3,250*l.* a year; but the result to St. Helena is that, instead of the mails arriving punctually to the day, and almost to the hour, when they were expected, they have been most irregular, the outward mails sometimes arriving one and even three days too soon, and the homeward mails being usually several days late. The inconvenience and loss caused by these irregularities are serious when, as in the case of St. Helena, there are only mails each way at intervals of three and five weeks alternately and no telegraph by which the movements of the steamers can be ascertained.

Military Expenditure.

26. The whole cost of the garrison is defrayed from Imperial funds, and amounted in 1889 to 15,122*l.* There is no local militia or volunteer force. During the last few years large sums of money have been expended by the Imperial Government upon the fortifications, which are now practically complete and provided with the necessary armament of heavy guns. Much anxiety was, however, caused in the earlier part of the year by the announcement that it had been decided to withdraw the garrison in time of peace. The greater part of the Royal Artillery were actually withdrawn in the course of the year, but the infantry are still here. On the 31st of December last the garrison consisted of 153

officers and men. The withdrawal of the troops, if carried out, will throw many persons out of employment, and will cause a serious reduction in the Colonial Revenue. It will be necessary to apply to Parliament for a grant to relieve the distress among the unemployed by emigration or other means, and for an annual grant to enable the government to be carried on. It is not, I understand, intended to reduce the Army by the number of the troops hitherto stationed in St. Helena, but merely to keep the troops in England until an emergency arises. The only saving, therefore, will be the small difference between the cost of keeping the troops in England and that of keeping them in St. Helena; and this will be more than counterbalanced by the grants which will have to be made in aid of the Colonial Government. Whether the troops will reach the island in time to defend it, if war breaks out, is a question for the naval and military authorities.

Legislation.

27. Seven ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1, to shorten and interpret the language of ordinances;

Nos. 2 and 5, to promote public health;

No. 3, for the protection of life and property on the occurrence of fire;

Nos. 4 and 6, appropriation ordinances;

And No. 7, to provide for the levying and collection of rates and taxes.

28. I have already referred to the new Tax Ordinance, No. 7; and the only other one which requires special notice is No. 2, to promote public health. The other Health Ordinance, No. 5, merely corrects a clerical error in the previous one.

Health.

29. The Health Ordinance had its origin in a difficulty which arose in 1888 as to the removal of refuse from the town. This, like many other duties which in England would be discharged by a local authority, has been undertaken in St. Helena since the days of the East India Company at the cost of the general revenue. When the general revenue became insufficient to meet all the claims upon it, it was pointed out that any further taxation which might be required for the benefit of the town should be obtained from the town alone and not from the country. The inhabitants of the town, however, objected to the imposition of a rate for sanitary purposes; and the plan was, therefore, adopted of making individuals responsible for the removal of refuse from their own premises.

30. The ordinance does not deal with the important matters of water supply and sewerage. The water for the use of the town is brought down from the hills in pipes, for which the town is indebted to the East India Company. It is good drinking water;

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and, although in the dry season there is sometimes not enough for the efficient and regular flushing of the drains, the supply is, on the whole, satisfactory. The system of sewerage is not so good; and there are deaths nearly every year from enteric fever and diphtheria, which cannot but be regarded as affording indications of defective sanitary arrangements. Some improvement may be expected from the operation of the Health Ordinance, if strictly enforced: but a completely satisfactory system could only be established at a cost which the town is quite unable to afford. Notwithstanding these defects, however, the healthiness of the island is such that in 1889 there were only 50 deaths; of which 11 occurred among persons over 70 and under 80 years of age, and 4 among persons over 80. The death rate was 10 per 1,000 if the population be 5,000, or 12½ per 1,000 if it be 4,000.

Council.

31. In the administration of the government, the Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, which in 1889 consisted of the Bishop, the Officer Commanding the Troops, and two of the principal inhabitants—the Hon. G. Moss and the Hon. T. E. Fowler.

Col. L. F. Perry, R.A., was the Officer Commanding the troops until the 14th of December, when he left the island and was succeeded by Captain A. E. Mackenzie, of the 1st Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment. Mr. Grey Wilson, the Colonial Secretary, who had acted as Governor since the 4th of October 1887, left the island for six months' leave of absence on the 5th of November; on which date I assumed the Government, having arrived on the 28th of October.

32. There is no Legislative Council. Laws are made by the Governor alone, or by the Queen in Council; but the draft of any ordinance has usually to be published, for general information and in order that objections may be made, before it can be enacted.

Pensions.

33. The amount of the pensions paid out of the funds of the island in 1889 was 2,063*l.* This is a very heavy item, absorbing as it does nearly a quarter of the revenue at the present time. The pension list is, however, diminishing. At the end of the year it had been reduced by deaths, and by the re-employment of a pensioned officer, to 1,890*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*

34. In addition to the foregoing pensions, which are paid from St. Helena funds for services rendered to the Colony, there are certain pensions paid by the Imperial Government to officers of the East India Company, who retired when the Crown took over the island in 1834. There are also some pensions payable to the widows and orphans of officers in the Company's service from a fund established in 1766, which is known as the St. Helena Widows and Orphans Fund. The income of this fund is insufficient to meet the charges on it, and the deficiency has to be supplied

from the Imperial Exchequer. In 1850–1 the amount voted by Parliament for defraying the cost of the pensions directly chargeable on the Exchequer and making good the deficiency in the Widows and Orphans Fund was 10,875*l.*; but in 1889–90 the amount which had to be voted was only 1,362*l.* There is still one subscriber to the fund.

Population.

35. At the census of 1871 the population, exclusive of the garrison and of the crews of ships in harbour, was 5,838. In 1881 it was 4,511. I have been unable to obtain complete particulars of the changes which have since taken place. In 1888 the population was assumed to be increasing: but in 1889, owing to the scarcity of employment in the island and the demand for labour in South Africa caused by the recent discoveries of gold, it certainly decreased. The number of persons who left the island was 254, while 63 arrived in it; and there were 126 births as against 50 deaths. There was, therefore, a loss of 191, chiefly adults, by emigration; and a net decrease of 115. The worst of the emigration is that, as the adult and able-bodied go away, the proportion of children and of the aged and infirm increases among those who remain; and higher rates have to be levied upon an impoverished and diminishing body of ratepayers. On the other hand, however, many of the emigrants remit money to their relatives in St. Helena.

Ecclesiastical.

36. There are a bishop and four clergymen of the Church of England, and four churches. The average attendance is estimated at 1,000 persons. The whole cost of the ecclesiastical establishment was formerly defrayed by the Government; but state aid has now been entirely withdrawn. There is a Baptist minister, who serves four chapels with an average attendance estimated at 314: and the Salvation Army has a considerable number of adherents. There is also a Roman Catholic chapel, built and maintained by the War Department, and served by a military chaplain.

Education.

37. The island is well provided with elementary schools. The Government maintains a mixed school in the Country close to Plantation House; and in Town, a boys' school, a girls' school, and an infant school. The total cost in 1889 was 405*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, towards which the sum of 42*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* was derived from fees. The Benevolent Society, supported by voluntary contributions and with capital invested to the amount of 2,046*l.*, maintains two

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schools, one in Town and the other in the Sandy Bay district. The cost in 1889 was 160*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, and 8*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* was received in fees. The Hussey Charity, founded in 1865 under the will of Miss Rebecca Hussey, for the education of emancipated slaves in St. Helena and Lagos, maintains three schools, one in Town, another at Hutts Gate near to Longwood, and a third at Half Tree Hollow between the town and Plantation. No fees are charged in these schools, and the cost in 1889 was 205*l.* 16*s.* The Hussey Charity has also a night school in Town. The Government schools are undenominational: the others are connected with the Church of England. I was present at the annual inspection of seven of the ten schools, and was much pleased with what I saw. The standard is not the same in all: but each in its way appeared to be efficiently conducted, and to reflect credit upon the managers and teachers. The number of children upon the roll in the Government schools in 1889 was 339, and in the other schools 346; making 685 in all.

Newspapers.

38. The papers which were started in 1888 have ceased to appear; but the old established paper, the St. Helena Guardian, is published regularly every week.

Imports and Exports.

39. The value of the imports in 1889 was only 28,963*l.*, as against 37,606*l.* in 1888. The value of the exports was 5,643*l.*, of which specie accounts for 5,250*l.* The other exports, valued at 392*l.*, consisted merely of casks, hides, old metal, old rope, sacks, skins, and a few bales of wool.

Friendly Societies.

40. The readiness of the inhabitants to help themselves by subscribing to the Friendly Societies, instead of relying upon the poor rates for relief in sickness or for the payment of funeral expenses, is a very satisfactory feature in St. Helena. In addition to the previously existing societies, a Childrens Benefit Society was established in 1889. There are now six societies, with 2,389 members and funds invested to the amount of 6,757*l.*; but many persons belong to more than one society.

Savings Bank.

41. The only bank in the island is the Government Savings Bank, in which the number of depositors on the 31st of December last was 94. Notwithstanding the general depression, the amount of the deposits made during the year exceeded that of the withdrawals by 510*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*: but the number of depositors only increased from 91 to 94, as many of the individual depositors closed their

accounts to enable them to leave the island. The bank is largely used by various institutions as well as individuals, and this accounts for the small number of separate deposits. At the close of the year the amount to the credit of the depositors, exclusive of interest, was 8,060*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*: of which 7,497*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* was invested, 450*l.* being invested in the island and the rest abroad. The expenditure of the Bank was 215*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*; namely, 195*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* for interest to depositors and 20*l.* for the manager's salary. The interest on the invested funds was sufficient to meet the expenditure and leave a surplus of 30*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*

Meteorology.

42. The readings of the barometer, and of maximum and minimum thermometers, at the Castle in Jamestown, are recorded daily by Mr. G. C. Bruce. The highest temperature recorded in 1889 was 88° Fahrenheit on the 17th of March; and the lowest of the maximum temperatures was 72°, which was recorded on the 31st of August and 10th of September. The thermometers are well placed for registering the shade temperature of the air in the daytime, but at night the doors of the passage in which they are placed have to be closed. The minimum readings are consequently higher than they should be, and I refrain from quoting them. The difference in temperature between Jamestown, at the sea level, and Plantation or Longwood, 1,700 or 1,800 feet above the sea, is from 9° to 10° throughout the year. The amount of rain which fell at Longwood in 1889 was 22·48 inches, and at Woodlands 25·81 inches, which is very much less than usual. Unfortunately, no record is kept of the rainfall in Jamestown. Professor Cleveland Abbé, who visited the island this year with the United States Eclipse Expedition, is anxious that rain gauges should be kept both in Jamestown and at other places on the island, and that the signalman at Prosperous Bay should also be supplied with a self-registering anemometer.

Hospital.

43. The number of patients admitted during the year was 142, and the daily average in the hospital was 7.6 males and 2 females. There were 7 deaths. Of the 142 patients admitted, 52 were merchant seamen landed for medical treatment. The total cost of the Hospital, including salaries, provisions, medicines, &c., was 862*l.*; towards which 290*l.* was received from the patients and the Poor Relief Board. The balance, amounting to 572*l.*, was defrayed by the Colonial Government. The average daily cost of each patient was 4*s.* 11*d.*; but seamen are only charged 3*s.* a day.

Agricultural Resources.

44. Since the shipping began to decline, various attempts have been made to develope the resources of the soil, but none of them

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have as yet met with success. The cultivation of cinchona was introduced by the Government in 1869 ; but it had to be abandoned in 1871, as the soil proved to be insufficient for the proper developement of the plants. The manufacture of fibre from the aloes and flax, which grow here abundantly, has since been tried ; but, although there is more likelihood of success in this than in other experiments, the difficulties of obtaining an adequate supply of water or proper machinery have not yet been overcome. Potatoes are grown in considerable quantities, and are the crop on which the farmers now principally depend. It will be still more important to them, if the trade with passing ships continues to increase. Many of the vessels which pass are from 60 to 120 days out from such ports as Calcutta, Bangkok, Rangoon, Singapore, and Hong Kong; and what they chiefly want when they come to St. Helena are potatoes or other fresh vegetables. Coffee of good quality is grown in small quantities, and more land has recently been planted with it by Mr. W. A. Thorpe. It has been pointed out by Mr. D. Morris, now Assistant Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew, who visited the island in 1883, that coffee and various other things, if they cannot be produced in sufficient quantities for exportation, might at least be grown to the extent required for local consumption. It is unfortunate for the island generally that the cottagers, who used formerly to live in the country and cultivate their little plots of ground, have of late years been moving into the Town, or to Half Tree Hollow, where they have no gardens. The land, which might have produced many things in a small way, has been turned into pasture, which is now of little value, and will be still less valuable if the troops, who are almost the only consumers of beef and mutton, are withdrawn.

Imperial Assistance.

45. The conclusion at which Mr. Morris arrived, when he reported upon the position and prospects of the agricultural resources of the island in 1883, was that, unless the Home Government were prepared to give the Colony some assistance and to support it while endeavouring to develope the resources of the soil, there was little hope for it in the future. What is wanted is capital: but that is more than the taxpayers of the United Kingdom can be expected to provide. They do afford a certain amount of assistance, and in former days used to give much more. When the island was taken over by the Crown from the East India Company in 1834, very large grants-in-aid were voted by Parliament until the costly establishments, which the Company had maintained, could be reduced. The grants were 99,000*l.* in 1834–5, 70,000*l.* in 1835–6, 35,000*l.* in 1836–7, and 18,000*l.* in 1837–8; and from that date until 1848–9 a grant-in-aid of the local revenue was made regularly every year. But for the last 40 years the Government has been carried on by means of the dues raised in the island itself, with only occasional assistance from Imperial funds. Grants of 3,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* were received from

Parliament in 1868 and 1877 respectively, and a loan of 5,158*l.* was received in 1871–2. No grant-in-aid has been received since 1877; but the Home Government has adopted the principle of assisting the island by undertaking the cost of certain specific services, which must be kept up for Imperial purposes. From 1884 to 1888, the cost of the mail service was refunded to the Colony by Parliament, and has since been defrayed directly from Imperial funds; the main country roads, being essential for the defence of the island, are maintained by the War Department, under an arrangement made with the approval of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in 1885; and the island telegraphs, which are the joint property of the Colonial and Imperial Governments, are maintained and worked by the Royal Engineers with only a small contribution from Colonial funds. If the same principle were extended to the salary of the Governor, whose functions, in receiving the commanders of the British and foreign men of war and other visitors who call here, and in various other things, are Imperial rather than Colonial, there would be no ground for the complaint that the inhabitants of St. Helena have to bear more than their fair share of Imperial expenditure, when the revenue of the island is insufficient for local requirements.

Conclusion.

46. I have not referred to the disastrous fall of rocks of the 17th of April last, or to other events which have occurred since the close of 1889. But I cannot conclude this report without acknowledging the cordial assistance which I have received from the Members of Council and all the public officers—both civil and military, and to the kindly feeling exhibited towards me by all classes of the community, during my stay of seven months and a half in the island. Many of the civil servants have to discharge responsible duties with inadequate pay, and all the inhabitants are suffering more or less from the general depression. It is melancholy to contemplate the present condition of an island which was once so flourishing and still has so many points to recommend it. There are still the wonderfully healthy climate, neither too hot nor too cold; the beautiful scenery; the mixture of tropical and temperate vegetation; the rare indigenous plants; the clearly marked geological structure; and the historical associations derived from the rule of the East India Company, the imprisonment and death of the great Napoleon, and the visits of Halley and Darwin and other distinguished men of science. But the ruins of well-built country houses, and the deserted cottages, which are to be seen in every direction, as well as the returns of the rapidly diminishing revenue, afford evidence of the change which has taken place in all that constitutes material prosperity; and I regret that there is at present no sign of any improvement.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. L. ANTROBUS,
Acting Governor.

APPENDIX 1.

SHIPPING, 1866–89.*

Year.	Merchant Sailing Vessels.		Ships of War and Mail Steamers.	Total.	Difference from previous Year.		
	British.	Foreign.			Decrease.	Increase.	
1866	529	322	67	918	—	68	
1867	503	309	66	878	40	—	
1868	501	318	72	891	—	13	
1869	456	319	78	853	38	—	Suez Canal opened.
1870	416	322	69	807	46	—	
1871	380	308	70	758	49	—	
1872	319	285	63	667	91	—	
1873	370	291	56	717	—	50	
1874	380	247	57	684	33	—	
1875	298	242	65	605	79	—	Average Annual Decrease 1870–81, 27½
1876	306	222	54	582	23	—	
1877	335	266	63	664	—	82	
1878	362	251	56	669	—	5	
1879	310	228	65	603	66	—	
1880	306	191	67	564	39	—	
1881	245	215	65	525	39	—	
1882	233	203	61	497	28	—	Tonnage Dues abolished.
1883	250	213	58	521	—	24	Average Annual Decrease 1883-5, 15⅔
1884	188	160	66	414	107	—	
1885	225	160	65	450	—	36	1884–6, 48
1886	166	153	58	377	73	—	Passing Ships Ordinance enacted.
1887	150	111	56	317	60	—	
1888	142	124	64	330	—	13	Average Annual Decrease 1887–9, 29⅔
1889	134	110	44	288	42	—	
					775	210	
Net decrease since 1869					565		Average Annual Decrease 1870–89, 28¼

* This return includes only ships which "called."

APPENDIX 2.

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE, 1866–89.

Year.	Revenue.		Total Revenue exclusive of Grants and Loans.	Total Expenditure including repayment of Debt.	Surplus.	Deficit.	Grants and Loans from Parliament.	Loans bearing interest.
	Customs.	Other Sources.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1866	17,257	5,895	23,152	26,110	—	2,958	—	5,000
1867	17,159	5,867	23,026	27,113	—	4,087	—	—
1868	13,402	5,304	18,706	26,203	—	7,497	3,000	5,000
1869	15,076	5,704	20,780	24,626	—	3,846	—	5,000
1870	11,094	4,880	15,974	18,943	—	2,969	—	1,250
1871	10,621	4,937	15,558	18,439	—	2,881	950	—
1872	10,121	3,807	13,928	27,376	—	13,448	4,208	8,250
1873	11,138	3,842	14,980	16,699	—	1,719	—	—
1874	10,003	3,979	13,982	14,522	—	540	—	—
1875	10,041	3,575	13,616	14,040	—	424	—	—
1876	9,555	3,612	13,167	13,329	—	162	—	—
1877	9,808	2,973	12,781	18,007	—	5,226	5,500	—
1878	10,517	3,681	14,198	12,815	1,383	—	—	—
1879	10,470	3,685	14,155	12,486	1,669	—	—	—
1880	8,547	3,403	11,950	11,870	80	—	—	—
1881	9,198	3,228	12,426	12,801	—	375	—	—
1882	8,253	3,247	11,500	11,212	288	—	Grants for Mail Service.	—
1883	7,091	3,175	10,266	11,145	—	879		
1884	6,611	3,360	9,971	10,807	—	836	450	—
1885	6,017	3,032	9,049	*13,099	—	4,050	2,050	—
1886	6,580	3,606	10,186	*11,210	—	1,024	2,000	—
1887	4,590	3,454	8,044	*11,382	—	3,338	3,000	—
1888	5,841	3,425	9,266	*10,448	—	1,182	2,275	—
1889	4,891	3,518	8,409	*8,979	—	570	100	—

Total grant in aid for Mail Service - - £9,875

* Including payments for Mail Service amounting in the five years to - £9,848

APPENDIX 3.

Year.	Ships sighted.	Passed without any communication.	Traded with Boatmen.	Called.	Called and Traded with Boatmen.
1886	686	290	19	377	396
1887	619	193	109	317	427
1888	641	145	166	330	496
1889	604	55	261	288	549

APPENDIX 4.

Year.	Revenue, exclusive of Parliamentary Grant.	Expenditure, exclusive of Mail Subsidy.	Surplus.	Deficit.	Parliamentary Grant.	Payments for Mail Subsidy.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1884	9,971	10,807	—	836	450	—
1885	9,049	9,446	—	397	2,050	3,653
1886	10,186	9,024	1,162	—	2,000	2,187
1887	8,044	9,605	—	1,561	3,000	1,777
1888	9,266	9,081	185	—	2,275	1,367
1889	8,409	8,942	—	533	100	36
					£9,875	£9,020
					Cost of "sea transit" included in Expenditure, 1884–9 -	£828
					Total cost of Mails, 1884–9 - - -	£9,848

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 115.

SIERRA LEONE.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 75.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1890.



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1890.

[C.—6221.–4.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	1888
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90

No. 115.

SIERRA LEONE.

SIERRA LEONE.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 75.]

Sir J. S. HAY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House,
August 23, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889, together with a report thereon prepared by the Colonial Secretary, and regret the delay in the rendition of the same, which has been mainly due to the frequent illness of the Colonial Secretary and Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. S. HAY,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1889.

Colonial Secretariat,
Freetown, Sierra Leone,
July 31, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Sierra Leone Blue Book for 1889 and my report thereon.

1.—TAXES, DUTIES, AND FEES.

There were no changes under this head during the year, and there is no direct taxation in the Colony. The principal source of revenue is derivable from Customs duties on articles imported into the Colony. The tariff consists of an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. and certain specific duties which are moderate and wharfage. Export duties were abolished at the end of 1887.

2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue, including the Parliamentary grant in aid of the Colonial steamer and loan from Gold Coast Colony, was 70,836*l.*, showing an increase of 7,736*l.* on the estimated amount of 63,100*l.*

SIERRA LEONE.

The following statement compares the revenue of the years 1888 and 1889 :—

——	1888.	1889.	Increase 1889.	Decrease 1889.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	51,229 8 2	56,479 2 8	5,249 14 6	—
Licences	3,886 1 9	3,853 15 9	—	32 6 0
Rents, exclusive of lands	169 16 6	153 11 10	—	16 4 8
Fines, fees, and forfeitures	1,104 9 11	945 19 4	—	158 10 7
Land sales	48 18 3	143 18 9	95 0 6	—
Sale of Government property	6 1 3	32 8 2	26 6 11	—
Reimbursements	854 6 3	784 2 7	—	70 3 8
Miscellaneous receipts	987 17 6	3,369 2 10	2,381 5 4	—
Postage	821 1 5	761 13 4	—	59 8 1
Hospital stoppages	743 4 8	752 18 8	9 14 0	—
Stamp revenue	593 10 1	598 1 4	4 11 3	—
Colonial steamer	2,590 13 7	2,961 5 7	370 12 0	—
Total	63,035 9 4	70,836 0 10	8,137 4 6	336 13 0
Net increase 1889	—	—	7,800 11 6	—

The following return shows the estimated and actual receipts for 1889 :—

——	Amount estimated.	Total Receipts.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	51,100	56,479 2 8	5,379 2 8	—
Licences	4,000	3,853 15 9	—	146 4 3
Rents, exclusive of lands	150	153 11 10	3 11 10	—
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	1,000	945 19 4	—	54 0 8
Land revenue	125	143 18 9	18 18 9	—
Sale of Government property	25	32 8 2	7 8 2	—
Reimbursement in aid	1,000	784 2 7	—	215 17 5
Postage	800	761 13 4	—	38 6 8
Miscellaneous receipts	500	3,369 2 10	2,869 2 10	—
Hospital stoppages	800	752 18 8	—	47 1 4
Stamp revenue	600	598 1 4	—	1 18 8
Colonial steamer	3,000	2,961 5 7	—	38 14 5
Total	63,100	70,836 0 10	8,278 4 3	542 3 5

From the foregoing table it will be observed that the only large increases in the revenue during the year come under Customs and Miscellaneous Receipts.

The increase of 5,379*l.* under the first named over the amount anticipated is satisfactory as pointing to an improved state of trade.

The increase under Miscellaneous Receipts is only apparent as under this head is included a loan of 2,500*l.* from the Gold Coast Government, which was, however, repaid during the year, and fines inflicted on native Chiefs to the amount of 330*l.*

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure in 1889 amounted to 66,771*l.*, being less by 1,711*l.* than the sum voted.

The following statement compares the expenditure of the years 1888 and 1889:—

——	1888.	1889.	Increase 1889.	Decrease 1889.
ESTABLISHMENTS, &C.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries, &c.	30,637 14 7	30,040 3 9	—	597 10 10
Contingencies	153 10 9	127 17 2	—	25 13 7
Pensions and gratuities	2,501 7 8	3,103 14 1	602 6 5	—
SERVICES (EX. OF ESTABLISHMENTS).				
Administration of justice	2,946 1 7	436 5 11	—	2,509 15 8
Ecclesiastical	142 7 5	79 17 6	—	62 9 11
Charitable allowances	498 0 0	299 19 6	—	198 0 6
Education	1,354 10 8	1,285 4 4	—	69 6 4
Hospitals	2,344 17 0	2,444 1 6	99 4 6	—
Sanitary	421 5 7	386 4 4	—	35 1 3
Police and gaols	2,854 18 8	2,040 6 8	—	814 12 0
Harbour master	220 8 4	153 17 9	—	66 10 7
Aborigines	2,271 12 9	1,654 11 1	—	617 1 8
Rent	547 17 0	471 6 7	—	76 10 5
Transport	3,605 5 11	5,361 9 9	1,756 3 10	—
Works and buildings	901 14 3	1,138 9 9	236 15 6	—
Roads, streets, and bridges	448 16 4	586 17 4	138 1 0	—
Drawbacks and refund	632 17 9	681 16 11	48 19 2	—
Miscellaneous services	1,052 19 5	7,659 11 7	6,606 12 2	—
Revenue services	553 1 0	632 8 4	79 7 4	—
Interest	3,112 11 3	3,340 0 4	227 9 1	—
Sinking Fund	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—
Telegraph subsidy	1,625 0 0	1,300 0 0	—	325 0 0
Colonial steamer	3,460 16 2	2,547 5 8	—	913 10 6
Total	63,287 14 1	66,771 9 10	9,794 19 0	6,311 3 3
Net increase 1889	—	—	3,483 15 9	—

SIERRA LEONE.

The following return shows the estimated and actual expenditure in 1889 :—

—	Amount estimated.	Total Payments.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
ESTABLISHMENTS, &c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries, fixed	31,947 15 7	27,790 3 3	—	4,157 12 4
„ provisional and temporary	1,584 15 9	1,478 1 11	—	106 13 10
Allowances	1,336 7 6	771 18 7	—	564 8 11
Office contingencies	249 10 0	127 17 2	—	121 12 10
Pensions, &c.	3,100 0 0	3,103 14 1	3 14 1	—
SERVICES (EX. OF ESTABLISHMENTS.)				
Administration of Justice	1,500 0 0	460 5 11	—	1,063 14 1
Ecclesiastical	150 0 0	79 17 6	—	70 2 6
Education	1,009 0 0	1,285 4 4	285 4 4	—
Hospitals	2,400 0 0	2,444 1 6	44 1 6	—
Sanitary	600 0 0	386 4 4	—	213 15 8
Police and gaols	3,100 0 0	2,040 6 8	—	1,059 13 4
Charitable allowances	300 0 0	299 19 6	—	0 0 6
Aborigines	2,580 0 0	1,654 11 1	—	925 8 11
Rent	500 0 0	471 6 7	—	28 13 5
Transport	4,500 0 0	5,361 9 9	861 9 9	—
Harbour master and boat estab.	200 0 0	153 17 9	—	46 2 3
Works and buildings	1,500 0 0	1,138 9 9	—	361 10 3
Roads, streets, and bridges	500 0 0	586 17 4	86 17 4	—
Drawbacks and refund	700 0 0	681 16 11	—	18 3 1
Miscellaneous services	1,400 0 0	7,659 11 7	6,259 11 7	—
Revenue services	634 0 0	632 8 4	—	1 11 8
Interest	3,400 0 0	3,340 0 0	—	59 19 8
Sinking fund	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—
Colonial steamer	3,000 0 0	2,547 5 8	—	452 14 4
Telegraph subsidy	1,300 0 0	1,300 0 0	—	—
Total	68,482 8 10	66,771 9 10	7,540 18 7	9,251 17 7

The excess of expenditure of 285*l.* on the vote for education was due to the larger grant earned for the schools and school buildings.

The payments under Transport included the journeys of the Governor and other officers to various parts of the Colony and on

the frontier under exceptional circumstances, and those made under Miscellaneous included the following items:—

	£
Sulymah Trading Company Land Claim -	2,553
Gold Coast Loan - - -	2,534
Liberian Claims - - - -	889
Fines on Native Chiefs to be paid to Imperial Government - - -	281
Total - -	6,257

The revenue and expenditure for the past three years were as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1887 - - - -	60,637	58,334
1888 - - - -	63,035	63,288
1889 - - - -	70,836	66,771

showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of 4,065*l* for the year under report.

3.—MUNICIPALITIES.

There is no municipality. A bill entitled "The Municipalities Ordinance, 1889," was introduced in the Legislative Council and read a first time on the 24th October but was not advanced further during the year.

4.—PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of 50,000*l.* raised in 1871–73 for constructing public works is repayable in 1896–98. The sinking fund for its repayment amounted on 31st December 1889 to 25,180*l.*

The balance of 8,000*l.* of the loan of 38,000*l.* obtained from the Imperial Government in 1877 was increased during 1889 by 454*l.*, being excess of expenditure over the Imperial grant on account of the mission undertaken in 1888 to the Almami Samodu.

The liabilities of the Colony exceeded its assets on—

	£
31st December 1887 by	42,558
„ „ 1888 „	40,693
„ „ 1889 „	33,101

5.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The returns furnished by the local officer in charge of the Imperial Treasury chest show that 62,573*l.* was spent in 1889 by the Home Government on account of the military establishment in the Colony.

In lieu of exemption from payment of Customs duties the local garrison received the sum of 362*l.* from the Colony in 1889.

The garrison consists of the head-quarters and seven companies of the West India Regiment, a detachment of Artillery and Engineers and Commissariat and Ordnance Departments.

Freetown is a naval depot and coaling station, and batteries have been constructed for the defence of the harbour.

There is no Colonial military force.

6.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A new public cemetery, which is much needed, was commenced: it is situated about a mile from Freetown, and is expected to be finished during the ensuing year. The expenditure under the head of Works and Buildings was 1,138*l.* for general repairs, and 587*l.* for the up-keep of roads, streets, and bridges, including the cost of lighting the streets. The amounts voted in the Estimates for these services were 1,500*l.* and 500*l.* respectively. Many of the public buildings require extensive repairs, but there were no funds available for the purpose.

7.—LEGISLATION.

The under-mentioned Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance authorising the Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone to prohibit munitions of war being exported from the Colony.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1889.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to legalize certain payments made in the year 1888 beyond the expenditure authorised by law.

No. 4.—An Ordinance for separating the offices of Colonial Secretary and Colonial Treasurer.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to prevent sketching, &c. by unauthorised persons upon the peninsula and garrison of the Colony of Sierra Leone.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone the necessary power for the detention and deportation of Mackiah, a political prisoner.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to prohibit fraudulently marked merchandise being imported into the Colony of Sierra Leone

No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the laws relative to jurors and juries.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of Sierra Leone the necessary power for the detention and deportation of Gbapor, a political prisoner.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to amend "The Stamp Duty Ordinance, 1884."

No. 11.—An Ordinance to prevent the disclosure of documents and information by means of breach of official trust.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend "The Merchandise Marks Ordinance, 1889."

No. 13.—An Ordinance to prevent the disclosure of official documents and information.

No. 14.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1890.

8.—Councils and Assemblies.

Executive Council.

Major Foster and Lieutenant-Colonel Maltby, of the West India Regiment, became members on assuming the command, at different periods, of the troops on the West Coast of Africa; Mr. H. Higgins as Colonial Secretary, and Major Crooks on appointment as Colonial Treasurer. The other appointments were of a temporary nature and require no comment here.

Legislative Council.

The members of the Executive Council being also members of the Legislative Council the foregoing changes also apply to this board. Mr. S. Lewis, barrister-at-law, an unofficial member, was absent on leave from the Colony for a portion of the year.

Board of Education.

The changes among official members were the same as in the Legislative Council. There was no change among unofficial members.

9.—Civil Establishment.

Governor Hay proceeded to England on 27th April 1889, on leave of absence, and the Government was administered by the following officers, who in turn commanded the troops; Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Patchett, from 29th April to 9th July; Major S. Foster from 10th July to 19th November, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Maltby from 20th November to the end of the year.

SIERRA LEONE.

Secretariat and Treasury.

Mr. T. R. Griffith, Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, was granted an extension of leave in England up to 28th January, when he was promoted to be Administrator of the Seychelles Islands. Mr. C. B. Mitford, Assistant Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, was promoted to Gambia as Treasurer from 31st January. Major J. J. Crooks acted as Colonial Secretary and Treasurer up to 16th May 1889, when the offices were separated by Ordinance No. 4 of 1889.

Colonial Secretariat.

Major Crooks acted as Colonial Secretary until 26th June, when he left for England on leave, and was succeeded by Major J. C. Gore, who acted as Colonial Secretary from 27th June to 14th September.

Mr. Henry Higgins, Assistant Colonial Secretary of Lagos, was appointed Colonial Secretary, Sierra Leone, and arrived in the Colony on 15th September.

Mr. E. Faulkner, chief clerk in the Colonial Secretariat, was promoted to be Assistant Colonial Secretary from 18th June.

Treasury.

Major Crooks was appointed Colonial Treasurer and Mr. S. M. Bennett Assistant Colonial Treasurer at the beginning of the year.

Aborigines Department.

This Department was separated from the Colonial Secretariat and brought under the Governor's office.

Mr. J. C. E. Parkes of the Secretariat was promoted Superintendent of the Department from 1st January, and Messrs. G. H. Garrett and T. J. Alldridge were appointed Travelling Commissioners.

Customs Department.

Mr. E. Adolphus, Police Magistrate, acted as Collector of Customs from 10th June to 13th November during the absence on leave to England of Mr. M. V. D. Stewart, the collector. Mr. J. F. Brown, chief clerk and warehouse keeper, vacated his appointment by absenting himself from the Colony without leave.

Districts.

Mr. Garret, sub-treasurer and collector at Sherbro, was appointed a Travelling Commissioner from 6th March. It was decided by the Secretary of State that the duties of sub-treasurer

and collector should be performed by the Civil Commandant of Sherbro, and consequently the post was not filled up.

Mr. R. E. Copland-Crawford, Special Service Officer, who had been acting as manager of the South-Eastern or Sulymah District, ceased connexion with the Government on termination of the period of his engagement on 10th March. The appointment of Mr. Mark Kerr, another Special Service Officer, terminated on 26th June.

Education Department.

The Government Practising School, Freetown, was permanently closed on 31st March. Mr. T. S. Wilson the head master, and Mrs. M'Cauley, the mistress, were retired on pension, and the remaining staff transferred to other departments. The Government of Lagos withdrew its contribution towards the salary of the Sub-Inspector of Schools, and the proportionate charge is now borne by Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, and Gambia.

Medical Department.

Dr. W. Renner, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, acted as Colonial Surgeon during the absence of Dr. D. P. Ross, on leave in England from 20th July.

Dr. A. L. Wykham was temporarily employed as an Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

Quarantine Board.

This Board was revised on 27th April 1889, the Colonial Surgeon was appointed President thereof, and among the new members may be mentioned Mr. T. S. Buckley and Mr. H. Burnett as representing the mercantile community.

Sanitary Department.

Mr. Alfred Revington, Sanitary Inspector and an Inspector of Police, retired on a pension from 26th June, on the ground of ill-health. The Colonial Surgeon was gazetted *ex officio* Inspector of Public Health.

Judicial Department.

The Chief Justice, Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones, was on leave to England from 11th to March to 14th September, his *locum tenens* being Mr. J. K. Donaldson, the Queen's Advocate and Registrar General, who, however, was invalided to England on 20th August.

Mr. J. A. Macarthy was appointed Acting Queen's Advocate from 15th March.

SIERRA LEONE.

Mr. E. Adolphus, Police Magistrate and Manager, and Coroner of the 1st Eastern and Mountain Districts, was granted six months leave, and Surgeon H. C. Gordon, Army Medical Staff, appointed to the duties from the 27th of November.

Police.

Mr. F. Craigie Halkett, Inspector General, was absent from the Colony on leave up to 7th December, when he was transferred in a similar capacity to the Bahamas. During his absence his duties were performed alternately by Mr. E. Adolphus, Mr. S. M. Bennett, and Major S. G. Fairtlough, R.A.

Captain W. Le Poer Power was appointed an Inspector of Police, and arrived in the Colony 14th July.

There were many minor changes in the general staff.

10.—PENSIONS.

Mr. J. Shaw, formerly Colonial Treasurer, and in receipt of a pension of 350*l.* from 13th April 1878, died 6th June. Mr. E. Collins, ex-keeper of lunatic asylum, who was receiving 59*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, also died 7th November. The following persons were retired on pension during 1889: Mr. T. G. Lawson, Government Interpreter, 210*l.* from 1st January. Mr. A. Revington, Sanitary Inspector, 65*l.* from 26th June. Mr. T. S. Wilson, Head Master Government School, 43*l.* 11*s.* from 1st April, and Mrs. M. A. Macauley, Mistress Government School, 15*l.* from the same date. Mr. T. Williams, a pilot, was granted a compassionate allowance of 40*l.*

Twenty-one members of the police force were retired from the service through old age or physical unfitness with a total allowance of 199*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* A secretariat messenger and a coxswain of Customs boat were also placed on pension. The total additions to the pension list during 1889 amounted to 595*l.*

The expenditure on account of pensions during the last three years was:—

Year.	Paid in England.	Paid in the Colony.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	1,832	693	2,525
1888 - - -	1,832	693	2,501
1889 - - -	1,940	1,164	3,104

11.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

France.—G. A. Mondehare, Vice-Consul. *Germany.* — P. Lemberg, Consul. *Belgium, the Netherlands, and Spain.*—F. Burman, Consul. *Denmark.*—T. S. Buckley, Consul. *Italy.*—G. Zochonis, Consul. *Portugal.*—P. Lemberg, Consul. *Greece.*—A. G. Ceffala, Vice-Consul. *United States.*—J. A. Lewis, Consul; C. May, Vice-Consul. *Liberia.*—M. S. Boyle, Consul.

12.—POPULATION.

The census was taken in 1881 with the following results; males 31,201; females 29,345; total including the military 60,546, of whom the whites numbered, males 237; females 34.

The area of the Colony has been considerably extended, and no doubt when the census is taken next year a large increase in the native population will be found to have taken place. The total population is estimated at present at 75,000.

The vital statistics furnished for the last three years give the following:—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1887 - - - -	1,341	1,413
1888 - - - -	1,358	1,248
1889 - - - -	1,250	1,363

The total number of deaths for 1889 included 592 for Freetown as under:—

Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Medically certified.
9	583	592	116

The number of marriages contracted in the Colony during the year is reckoned at 232.

13.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The following table shows the different religious sects and their adherents in the Colony according to the returns furnished by those denominations :—

Denomination.	Places of Worship.	No. of Persons generally attending.
Anglican - - - -	53	9,460
Roman Catholic - - -	3	380
Wesleyan - - - -	34	13,585
Free Church Methodist - -	14	2,490
Maroon Methodist - - -	1	300
African M. E. Church of America -	1	380
American Mendi Mission - -	3	240
Huntingdonian - - -	11	1,295
Baptist - - - -	3	325
Total - -	123	28,455

There is a large body of the Mohammedan faith.

14.—EDUCATION.

The following table gives the number of elementary schools and scholars attending them, which are annually examined by the Inspector of Schools, and which received grants from Government based on the recommendations of the Board of Education.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.			Grants.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
					£
1887 -	61	4,141	4,023	8,164	682
1888 -	67	5,338	4,205	8,543	762
1889 -	77	4,723	4,499	9,222	806

In addition to the above there are seven elementary schools with 439 scholars in 1889, which were below the Government standard.

In Freetown there are six high schools, three for boys and three for girls with a total attendance during the year under report of 310 boys and 170 girls.

The Fourah Bay College, on the outskirts of Freetown, belongs to the Church Missionary Society and is affiliated to the University of Durham, and students at it are therefore eligible to take degrees in theology, arts, &c., &c.

Little or nothing has been done in the way of industrial training, although repeated efforts have been made by the Government to induce managers of schools to include instruction in this direction.

In 1889 a scheme was put forward by the Government, for an industrial training school, to be established and towards the cost of which the Government offered a liberal contribution. The matter was referred to a committee and was still under consideration at the close of the year.

That a technical school properly worked, would be a great boon to the Colony there can be no question.

A weekly newspaper is published in Freetown, and a fortnightly one at Sherbro.

15.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following table gives the total value and duty paid for three years:—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total Value.	Duty.
	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - - - -	247,764	1,923	58,351	308,038	33,824
1888 - - - -	190,529	1,211	58,407	250,147	43,742
1889 - - - -	210,800	1,110	65,871	277,781	49,034

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total Value.	Duty.
	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - - - -	120,188	15,695	197,634	333,517	5,160
1888 - - - -	166,569	17,651	154,823	339,043	138*
1889 - - - -	131,077	23,992	164,650	319,719	—

* On account of 1887; export duties were abolished in December 1887.

SIERRA LEONE.

16.—SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years were :—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1887 - - - -	633	174,915	653	185,722	1,286	360,637
1888 - - - -	702	255,330	703	262,351	1,405	517,681
1889 - - - -	724	291,239	726	297,932	1,450	589,171

Tonnage dues were abolished at the end of 1887. That it was a wise step the large increase in 1888 and 1889 in the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared affords the most convincing evidence. The harbour of Freetown, the principal port, is spacious, and is the best in West Africa.

Compulsory pilotage was abolished by an Order in Council dated the 18th September 1889.

17.—AGRICULTURE.

There has been little or no improvement in agriculture in Sierra Leone. There are two or three experimental plantations which are making progress, but, generally speaking, agriculture is not popular in this Colony. A Botanic Society was organised in 1886, and the following year model gardens were established near Freetown, but so far there appear to have been no practical results therefrom.

18.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners admitted in gaol during the last three years was as follows:—

Year.	Men.	Women.	Total.
1887 - - - -	904	89	993
1888 - - - -	842	75	925*
1889 - - - -	1,073	64	1,141†

* Including eight juveniles.
† Including four juveniles.

A new gaol is much required, and will probably be one of the first works undertaken when funds permit.

19.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following return shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last three years :—

Year.	No. of Offences.	No. of Persons apprehended.	No. of Summary Convictions.	No. of Supreme Court Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	1,752	1,956	1,050	106	291*
1888 - -	1,995	2,327	1,318	66	226*
1889 - -	2,158	2,487	1,409	66	310*

* Exclusive of cases that fell through for want of prosecution.

The foregoing figures clearly prove that crimes are on the increase. Larceny was the prevailing offence. In connexion with this it must be kept in mind that the military works in progress during the dry season gave employment to a large number of aborigines who for the time being swelled the population of Freetown.

20.—HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals and the number of deaths for the last three years were:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1887 - - - -	565	102
1888 - - - -	701	103
1889 - - - -	702	135

21.—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The total admissions, discharges cured, and deaths for the last three years were:—

Year.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1887 - - - -	20	4	7
1888 - - - -	14	5	9
1889 - - - -	17	1	10

There were 86 inmates in the asylum.

22.—BANKS.

The only bank in the Colony in 1889 was the Treasury Savings Bank established in January 1882, and which has done well, the amounts deposited increasing every year. The annexed table gives the number of depositors and amount due to them in the past three years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount Due to Depositors.
		£
1887 - - - -	501	9,330
1888 - - - -	697	11,929
1889 - - - -	904	14,179

Deposits are received from one shilling upwards, but no individual is allowed to deposit more than 130*l.* to his own account within a year, nor to have more than 500*l.*, exclusive of interest, in the bank. The rate of interest is 2½ per cent. per annum.

23.—GOVERNMENT HOUSES.

Government House, Fort Thornton, Freetown, is much in want of repairs and general doing up.

Heddles Farm, on the hill side, which was bought for the purpose of a Government Sanitarium, is in a state of disrepair, and the Governor's House at the Cape is nearly as bad.

24.—ROADS, TELEGRAPHS, &C.

A frontier road has been constructed the whole length of the Colony from the Skarcies River in the north to the Manna River in the south-east, a distance of about 200 miles, and the connecting roads with it are kept open principally by the Chiefs and their people.

There are no railways or inland telegraphs. There is telegraphic communication by two cables with Europe and by one with the other West African Colonies and the Cape of Good Hope.

Freetown, Sherbro', and the villages are fairly roaded.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

For years past the adjacent native territories have been in a state of chronic warfare. Rival chieftains and lawless marauders have periodically striven against each other and carried desolation into the homes and villages of the defenceless natives, many of whom were kidnapped and sold into slavery. In some cases incursions were even made into British territory down to the coast line, and English trading establishments attacked. Many of the warriors or "warboys" as they are locally called, came from the far interior and offered their services to the Chiefs who could pay the highest price, and afterwards these warriors became masters of the situation, the Chiefs being powerless to control them. The trade of Sierra Leone being dependent on the tranquillity of the adjoining producing areas, has consequently suffered, and although expeditions have repeatedly been undertaken to quell these disturbances, no permanent peace has been obtained until, so far as the Yonni country is concerned, Sir F. De Winton led towards the close of 1887 the military expedition which demolished the stronghold at Robari, which has been made a military station, and where a detachment of troops has since been kept stationed, and as regards the Sherbro country till the successful termination of the expedition to Largo.

This latter expedition was undertaken with the object of punishing a war Chief named Mackiah, who had for a long time not only harried the country in the vicinity of the jurisdiction, but had in 1888 made a raid upon places within it.

Governor Hay left Freetown with this object in view on the 22nd December 1888, arrived at Bonthe on the 23rd, left for Kasseh on the Kasseh-lake on the 24th, and arrived at that place on Christmas Day.

The expeditionary force, which was composed of 75 non-commissioned officers and men of the Sierra Leone police, left Kasseh on the 28th, destroyed Fanimah (one of Mackiah's principal towns), rescued 668 men, women, and children on the 2nd January 1889, and marched into Largo on the 3rd of the same month.

SIERRA LEONE.

After taking steps to protect the district and starting negotiations for the capture of Mackiah, Governor Hay returned to Freetown in February *vid* the new frontier road as far as Mattru in the Jong.

Mackiah, having been subsequently captured, was brought to Freetown by Mr. Garrett in April, and has since been deported to Elmina.

Treaties of friendship have been entered into by the Government with the Chiefs of native tribes bordering on the Colony and into the interior to a considerable distance, and annual stipends are paid to many of them in return for their protection of commerce and keeping open of the inland roads.

Police have been stationed along and patrol the frontier road from Kambia, on the Skarcies river, in the north to the Manna river in the south-east, for the protection of the producing areas. It has been decided to raise an armed police force for this purpose, as being more suitable for such work than the existing force.

Governor Hay, while on leave in England, was invested by Her Majesty with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

A scheme for the reorganization of the Civil Service was approved and general retrenchment in expenditure was effected wherever possible and as opportunity offered.

The spheres of British and French influence to the north of the Colony were settled by the Anglo-French Convention, 1889, at Paris, and it only remains for the Commissioners who are to be appointed by the respective Governments to fix the line of demarcation.

The Colonial Surgeon reported the public health during the year to have been very satisfactory. Ordinary fever prevailed, and there was no small-pox or yellow fever.

The general sanitary condition of the Colony was fairly good. The present cemetery in Freetown will be closed as soon as the new one on the outskirts of the town is completed, and this should add materially to the health of the place.

The rainfall for the year as taken at the Colonial hospital was 145·24 inches against 143·99 inches in 1888.

The water supply in Freetown is good and plentiful during the greater part of the year. In the height of the dry season the supply becomes limited, but this might be remedied by conserving in reservoirs the supply of water during the rains, which is not done at present.

The resources of the Colony and the adjacent countries are to a great extent yet undeveloped, and there is ample field for enterprise in this direction. Cotton and indigo grow wild in the country, and, no doubt, many oil, dye, and fibre-producing plants of value are in existence. Little or nothing is done in the way of agriculture, and it is a pity that more attention is not given to this instead of to petty trading in which so large a portion of the community is engaged. Market gardening in the neighbourhood of Freetown should most surely prove a lucrative industry, as

there would undoubtedly be a large demand for vegetables from the steamers and men-of-war in addition to the local consumption, if a good market of such was established. Most of the ordinary vegetables and herbs grown in England can, experience has proved, be cultivated successfully in this climate, but the present supply is limited as to quantity and variety.

Three or four native gentlemen have started plantations of coffee, cocoa, tapioca, &c., the French Company has a coffee plantation at Kent, and the American mission at Shaingay has proved that coffee can be most successfully grown.

That the Colony contributes little towards the export trade at the present, anyone has only to glance at the return of exports to ascertain.

The total value of exports during the year under review was 319,719*l.*, of which only 6,879*l.* was for produce and manufactures of the Colony; the chief article being ginger to America to the value of 4,830*l.*, and to Great Britain 1,523*l.*

The steam communication with Europe has increased considerably, and, beside the weekly services with Liverpool, the steamers to and from that port and the south-west coast call regularly. There are also two French lines to Marseilles, Bordeaux, and Havre, and an English and a German line to Hamburg. The contract for conveyance of mails between Freetown and Sherbro terminated during the year, and the Government is in treaty for a new contract for a weekly service.

In conclusion, it is satisfactory to look to the improved revenue of the past year, as a result of the measures adopted by the Government to restore peace and protection to the Colony and the adjacent producing areas, and, without being too sanguine, greater results may confidently be looked for in the immediate future, when the people of the latter shall have rebuilt their villages, and made their farms, and engaged again unmolested in trade. It rests with the inhabitants of the Colony to take advantage of prosperous and peaceful times and protection such as they have not for many years enjoyed, to promote, by local enterprise, industries, and to develop the resources of the Colony, and so extend its trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY HIGGINS,
Colonial Secretary.

To his Excellency
Sir James Shaw Hay, K.C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief of
Sierra Leone.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 11.

BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 95, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
June 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.–10.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
78	Ceylon	1888
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890

No. 11.

BAHAMAS.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 95, Old Series.]

Sir AMBROSE SHEA to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Nassau, N.P.,
April 21, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for 1890. A marked improvement in the business of the Colony is shown in the returns of the year, from an increase in the value of the ordinary productions and from the expenditure on account of the fibre cultivation.

2. The imports show an increase of 38 per cent. and the exports about 35 per cent. over the figures of the previous year. It is satisfactory to note that in the food article of flour, the increased import is 25 per cent, showing the improved means of the people and the tendency to adopt a better standard of living, which is but the beginning of a change in their habits of life that should lead to greater energy in their industrial pursuits.

3. The imports from the United Kingdom are 25 per cent. in advance of the year 1889. The imports aggregate 222,512*l.*, and the exports (168,121*l.*). Of which latter 23,559*l.* were goods of foreign production, leaving the *bonâ fide* export of local products 144,562*l.*

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue for the year was 54,826*l.*, and the expenditure 48,688*l.*

Crown Lands.

5. The revenue from Crown lands for the year, including balance, of which payment is assured, was 2,460*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* and the expenditure 2,136*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* A considerable amount was spent on account of surveys which remained neglected in years gone by. It is most important that these should now be accurately determined, to prevent conflicts as to boundaries which are sure to arise under the stimulus now being given to the value of land. A large number of applications for land have been made, many being in abeyance from the failure of the parties, so far, to comply with the conditions of purchase.

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Salt Pond Account.

6.—(*a.*) This account presents no features for special remark. The fund is charged with expenses that do not all legitimately apply to it, but this has been the case for some years past. The amount at credit is 1,522*l.* 14*s.*

(*b.*) The salt business during the past year shows some improvement, but the drawback to its activity lies in the prohibitory duty in the United States. If closer trade relations should be established with the Dominion of Canada, which may be reasonably hoped for, salt will probably become an article of substantial export to that country.

Widows and Orphans' Fund.

7. The receipts on this account for the year were 334*l.*, and the expenditure 2,533*l.* It is in view to restore the Act repealed some years ago and place this important question on a sound basis for future operations. Meanwhile the general revenue must respond to the claims under the former Act, and thus the demands from widows and orphans entail a growing burthen on the general revenue, from which, practically, it can only be relieved by new legislation.

Post Office Savings Bank.

8. The amount of deposits for the year was 2,469*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* and withdrawals 2,015*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* The interest paid was 128*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, and the receipts of interest 215*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* No charge is made for management while the institution is yet so small in its operations, but it is now placed on a sound legitimate footing and future figures will probably exhibit a marked improvement. The amount of invested funds in the hands of the Crown Agents, is 6,424*l.* 18*s.* and the whole sum of deposits 6,768*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

Joint Stock Bank of Nassau.

9. This bank gives good earnest of being a marked success. It has been but 18 months in existence, and such has been its progress that the last year's dividend was 10 per cent. The value of this institution to the trade and general interests it is difficult to estimate, and it cannot fail to have an important bearing on the progress of the Colony.

Public Debt.

10. The funded debt has been reduced by the sinking fund to the extent of 1,700*l.*, and now stands at 81,426*l.*, there being 33,300*l.* invested in England at 4½ per cent., and 48,126*l.* in the Colony at 4 per cent.

Legislation.

11. There were 30 Acts passed during the year's session, from one of which, to raise a loan for the erection of a custom house, the Royal Assent has been withheld pending a provision being made for a sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt; the other Acts do not appear to call for special comment.

Population.

12. The population is estimated at 49,500, but the census to be taken in April will definitely fix the number. There were during the year 1,871 births and 889 deaths, the latter showing a rate of 20·42.

Education.

13. There are 38 Government schools. In these schools the number of pupils on the rolls is 5,352 and the average attendance is 3,495. The amount expended was 2,671*l.*, no fees being paid. In addition to the above there are 10 aided schools with 869 pupils on the rolls and 465 average attendance. The contribution of the Government to these schools is 143*l.* 10*s.* The Church of England have 30 schools unassisted, with a roll of 1,471 pupils. Besides these there are 35 private schools with 923 pupils on the rolls. The want of good school buildings is much felt, such structures would tend to make education more attractive, and, with improving means, the Government intend to effect something in this direction in the early future.

Agriculture.

14. Apart from the fibre cultivation agriculture is confined chiefly to pine-apples. The people raise maize and sweet potatoes for their own use, and their maintenance is much assisted by these crops. Cotton shows an increase, being 1,593*l.* in value compared with 1,074*l.* in 1889. There is no reason why this business should not be extensively prosecuted, as most of the islands are well adapted for its cultivation. It is hoped that the presence of strangers now coming in to pursue the fibre industry will act on cotton productions, to the advantages of which their attention cannot fail to be directed. It is quite possible that, in time, cotton may be found only second to the fibre in the category of exports from the Colony. The pine-apple crop realised 49,795*l.*, as compared with 25,558*l.* in 1889. Of canned pine-apples there were exported 26,789 cases, valued at 6,126*l.*, and in 1889 the export was 21,683 cases, with a value of 4,500*l.* In oranges there was an export of 3,961*l.*, the output of 1889 having been 3,040*l.* Careless culture and a reckless mode of shipping, very often in bulk in vessels' holds, must militate against the success of the orange growers. There are advantages for the cultivation

BAHAMAS.

of oranges in these islands not known in Florida, as we are proof against frost, which often visits that country. This branch of employment may also be favourably affected when men of enterprise from outside, appreciating the opportunity, use it with energy and the application of well-ordered methods of packing and shipping.

Sponge Fishery.

15. There is an increase in the returns of the sponge fishery in 1890 realising 63,099*l.*, as against 51,886*l.* in 1889; this is the largest amount realised in the sponge fishery for many years.

Salt.

16. There is an increase in the small export of salt from 1,279*l.* in 1889, to 2,479*l.* in the past year.

Fibre Cultivation.

17.—(*a.*) Steady progress continues to be made in this industry, with increasing faith in its value and permanence. A report of the cultivation to the present time has been prepared by order of the Government, which, though strictly accurate, would not convey true impressions to those at a distance.

(*b.*) The report speaks of 4,100 acres being already planted with 2,500,000 of plants, but it states that there are also 1,300,000 plants in nurseries, which, being in course of growth, adds 50 per cent. to the active cultivation, making an aggregate of over 6,000 acres. Plants are now kept much longer in nurseries to lessen the cost of weeding, which is an expensive operation, and annually attended to after the plants are set out in the fields.

(*c.*) There has been some question as to the time to bring the plantings to maturity, but four years is now the accepted period, while plants retained in the nurseries, as above stated, will mature in three years. There is but little to add to former reports on this enterprise, which has passed out of the experimental stage and will not probably present any new features of inaterest until exports of fibre begin, which will be, on a moderate sc le, in 1892, then developing annually into proportions of increasing importance.

(*d.*) The value of the fibre, like that of other products, will, of course, be subject to market conditions from time to time, but, in the natural order of things, it will ever be the main export and, regarding all the surrounding circumstances, it is difficult to see how it can fail to pay present investors handsomely and to be, to them, a source of income less liable to fluctuations than is the case with most commercial adventures. The time is now approaching when the machines for separating the fibre from the leaf will acquire practical importance; of those now in use none seem to meet all the requirements. Some of them clean the fibre well; but the process is wasteful, and the correction of this defect is the object to be accomplished. With so great an interest at stake we

must suppose inventive genius will be found equal to the occasion Professor Edison has directed his attention to the matter of decortication and he hopes he has found an effective method which avoids waste. The treatment is by a solution of crude petroleum, and this Government are now in communication with the Professor. If the results meet our requirements, a most important end will be attained, which will have the further advantage of enabling small cultivators to dress their own leaves instead of being compelled to sell them at a loss to a large neighbouring planter, who is able to procure a machine.

(*e.*) The process being enterprised by Professor Edison embraces other and most valuable interests in this Colony. Many thousands of tons of pine-apple leaves are now annually left to waste. The fibre commands a high price, from 60*l.* to 80*l.* a ton, for use in fine textiles. The small quantity now produced comes from China, where it is roughly and expensively prepared for want of a machine sufficiently delicate to extract the tender fibre without injury. The proposed mode would seem to meet this difficulty, as all strain or friction is avoided, and the result of pending inquiries is looked for with great interest. The immediate effect of successful experiment would be to turn a wasted product into an article of much value, adding substantially to the returns of pine-apple cultivation and this process may be applied to the growing crop. It is understood that the same solution may be used many times, and, if present hopes are realised, the petroleum will be admitted free of the duty now imposed.

Shipping Returns.

11. The following tables present an abstract of the shipping returns for 1890:—

Sailing Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	214	13,944	1,296
In ballast - -	33	3,855	223
Tota. - -	247	17,799	1,519

Sailing Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	99	9,912	576
In ballast - - -	61	6,352	370
Total -	160	16,264	946

Sailing Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	156	13,112	1,128
In ballast - - -	70	2,660	349
Total - -	226	15,772	1,477

Sailing Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	149	13,580	894
In ballast - - -	20	1,960	122
Total - -	169	15,540	1,016

Steam Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	4	4,190	118
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	4	4,190	118

Steam Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	86	96,120	3,726
In ballast - - -	2	3,260	125
Total - -	88	99,380	3,851

Steam Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	4	4,190	118
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	4	4,190	118

Steam Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	79	86,191	3,381
In ballast - - -	7	11,548	417
Total - -	86	97,739	3,798

Compared with 1889 these returns show an increase in both sailing and steam tonnage.

Criminal Statistics.

19. There were 2,568 persons brought before the magistrates' courts in 1890, of whom 329 were discharged for want of prosecution or want of evidence, 622 were cases dismissed on their merits, 1,569 were summarily convicted, and 48 were committed for trial in the superior courts, where judgment for the Crown was given in 30 cases.

Prison.

20. The total number of persons committed to prison in 1890 was 311, being 165 men, 104 women, and 42 juveniles; of these, 81, 71, and 17 respectively had been previously convicted. The average daily number of prisoners was 52·77, slightly in excess of the previous year.

The cost of the prison for the year was 1,360*l.*, which does not include the salaries of the keeper and chaplain provided for out of the general revenue. The value of the prisoners' labour on the public works, roads, &c., during the year was estimated at 620*l.*, but no money is received for this.

Hospital and Insane Asylum.

21.—(*a.*) The daily average of patients in hospital for 1890 was 76. There were 69 patients remaining at the end of 1889, and

BAHAMAS.

250 were admitted during the year. 97 patients were discharged as cured, 81 as relieved, and 12 not relieved. There were 47 deaths.

(*b.*) The proposed Victoria Hospital is found to involve a considerably larger outlay than had been provided, and the Government were unwilling to proceed without further reference to the Legislature. The subject will therefore be submitted in the present session, and it is hoped no further delay will be incurred in the prosecution of this urgently required undertaking.

(*c.*) There were 11 lunatics admitted into the asylum in 1890; five were discharged cured, three relieved, and four deaths occurred. The average daily number in the asylum was 26, or 17 males and 9 females.

Meteorological Observations.

22. The rainfall for the year was 44·57 inches, which is somewhat below the average. Easterly winds prevailed for 261 days, and this may possibly account to some extent for the want of rain, as they are dry here.

The mean air temperature at 9 o'clock a.m. and 3 o'clock p.m. ranged from 84°·5 Fahr. and 85°·6 Fahr. in July to 73°·6 Fahr. and 74°·8 Fahr. in March.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. SHEA,
Governor

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 3.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889-1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 97, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1891.

LONDON:
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1891.

[C.—6269.-2.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	1888
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888-9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad (Tobago)	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,

No. 3.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

(In continuation of No. 97, Old Series.)

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
November 29, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, in original, an interesting Despatch which I have received from Sir Sidney Shippard, covering the Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 1890.

I enclose also a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Sir Sidney Shippard on this subject.

The Report refers to many subjects of much interest and importance, and it will be satisfactory to your Lordship to observe the progressive improvement that has taken place during the year. The financial position of the territory is still far from being as satisfactory as could be desired, but I am glad to notice a decided improvement, and I believe the large influx of European population, which is sure to result from the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Mafeking, will tend to a steady increase of the revenue of the country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and
High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT of the ADMINISTRATOR for the YEAR ended 30th September 1890.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland,
Vryburg, November 22, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress and condition of British Bechuanaland, and development in and beyond the

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Protectorate, during the year which ended on the 30th September 1890:—

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I have much pleasure in stating that the peace of the eastern border of the Crown Colony and Protectorate has remained undisturbed throughout the year, and that there appear to me to be many signs that the firm but conciliatory policy steadily pursued for several years past is at length bearing fruit in better feelings and improved relations among neighbours who, on every account, ought to be united.

I gladly acknowledge the ready assistance afforded to this Administration on every occasion by the courts of justice of the South African Republic, and the impartiality of the juries before which fugitives from the Protectorate have been tried on the continuous charge of theft, but notwithstanding this the need of a convention for the extradition of criminals continues to be severely felt. I have reason to believe that one of the causes of the apparent reluctance of the Government of the South African Republic to conclude such a treaty with this Government, is the want of a superior court and the absence of trial by jury in British Bechuanaland. It is to be hoped that this want may be speedily supplied, and that perfect reciprocity may be established on all the points mentioned in my last annual Report, viz.:—

I. Extradition of criminals.
II. Compulsory attendance of witnesses.
III. Recovery of stolen stock.
IV. Recognition of native passes, or passports.

V. Postal and telegraphic communication.
VI. Sale of liquor to natives.
VII. Execution of civil judgments on endorsement of writ.
VIII. Probate and letters of administration.
IX. Free trade in South African produce.

During the past year legislative proclamations have been issued for the following objects:—

To provide for the registration of marriages solemnised in Bechuanaland before the 1st October 1885. (No. 71, B. B., 1889.)

To provide for the appointment of a Special Justice of the Peace with jurisdiction over a certain area between the valley of the Dry Hartz and the Transvaal border. (No. 72, B. B., 1889.)

To bring into force in British Bechuanaland certain Acts of the Legislature of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope for the year 1889. (No. 73, B. B., 1890.)

To fix the amount payable by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, in respect of bank note duty in the territory of British Bechuanaland during the year ending on the 31st day of December 1890, and to amend the Bank Notes Duty Act, No. 6, 1864, of the Cape Colony accordingly. (No. 74, B. B., 1890.)

To amend so much of the law for regulating the duties upon stamps and licences in force in the territory of British Bechuanaland as relates to the amount payable for an annual licence by joint stock banks carrying on business within the said territory. (No. 75, B. B., 1890.)

To make provision for the granting of licences to graze stock on certain vacant Crown lands. (No. 76, B. B., 1890.)

To establish a close season for the protection of game in the District of Gordonia. (No. 77, B. B., 1890.)

To remove doubts alleged to have arisen with reference to jurisdiction in insolvency under sections 20, 28, and 29 of the laws and regulations for the Government of British Bechuanaland, and to determine the procedure to be followed in relation to the compulsory filing of the accounts and plan of distribution of the assets of any insolvent estate by the trustee or trustees thereof. (No. 78, B. B., 1890.)

To repeal section 40 of the laws and regulations for the Government of British Bechuanaland as amended by Proclamation No. 66, B. B., 1889, and to prescribe in and by whom the rights, powers, and duties of Master as defined by Cape Statute Law with relation to the Master of the Supreme Court of the Cape of Good Hope shall be vested and performed in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 79, B. B., 1890.)

To provide for the entry of the territory of British Bechuanaland into a South African Customs Union. (No. 80, B. B., 1890.)

To make provision for the maintenance of discipline and good order in the British South Africa Company's police while within the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 81, B. B., 1890.)

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To amend the Transfer Duty Consolidation and Amendment Act, No. 5, 1884, by reducing the rate of transfer duty payable on shares in a company formed within six months of the day of the date of the sale, or in a proposed company, forming an additional valuable consideration other than money, given or promised or agreed to be given by the purchaser to the seller, or to any other person, for, or in respect of, or in connexion with, the alienation of any immovable property in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 82, B. B., 1890.)

To declare a certain area to be an infected district within the meaning of Act, No. 2 of 1881, entitled "Act for preventing the "spread of Contagious and Infectious Diseases among Cattle and "other Animals." (No. 83, B. B., 1890.)

To reduce the amount of the annual licence payable by the agent of a foreign firm in the territory of British Bechuanaland, and to amend the Stamp Act Amendment Act, No. 38, 1887, accordingly. (No. 84, B. B., 1890.)

To make better provision and to establish regulations for the general government and management of prisons in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 85, B. B., 1890.)

To amend the law relating to the constitution of the Village Management Board of Mafeking, and to provide that the proceeds of all building plots sold as vacant Crown land in the township of Mafeking from and after the 18th June 1887 shall be paid into general revenue. (No. 86, B. B., 1890.)

Besides the foregoing proclamations certain Government notices of great importance have been issued. The following demand special mention:—

To publish the Charter of the British South Africa Company. (7th January 1890.)

To publish the Order in Council of the 13th December 1889, embodying regulations as to the removal and return of prisoners and criminal lunatics under the provisions of the Colonial Prisoners Removal Act, 1884 (47 & 48 Vict. c. 31.). (24th Feb. 1890.)

To provide for the retention and production by carriers of permits for the importation of arms and ammunition. (27th Feb. 1890.)

To establish rules defining the practice to be observed in the Deeds Registry Office with respect to the cancellation of lost mortgage bonds; the issue of copies of transfer deeds; powers of attorney to pass mortgage bonds or deeds of transfer, &c.; and the hours for executing deeds of mortgage or transfer. (3rd July 1890.)

To establish regulations for the native location on the town commonage of Vryburg. (23rd July 1890.)

To publish a Money Order Convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland extended to the United Kingdom and foreign countries. (26th August 1890.)

To publish an Order of Her Majesty in Council empowering the Governor of British Bechuanaland to provide by Proclamation

for giving effect to any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, may at any time before or after the date of the said Order have within the limits therein specified, to wit:—The parts of South Africa situate north of British Bechuanaland; West of the South African Republic and of Matebeleland; east of the German Protectorate; and south of the River Zambesi; and not within the jurisdiction of any civilised Power. (27th August 1890.)

With reference to the last-mentioned Order in Council I may state that no attempt has been made to put it in force, or to act under it, save in respect of offences committed in the Protectorate by members of a police force; and I may add that, in view of the great and continuous influx of Europeans proceeding through the Protectorate to Mashonaland, and the vast interests now at stake, the time has, in my opinion, arrived for the annexation of at least that portion of the Protectorate lying to the south of Khama's southern boundary, from the Notwani Junction or thereabouts to the Kalahari. Such annexation should, of course, include all that portion of the British Protectorate bounded on the east by the western boundary of British Bechuanaland, on the south by the Orange River, and on the west by the German Protectorate.

It is necessary to travel through Bechuanaland from the Hartz River to the Notwani and thence down the Limpopo to the camp on the Matlaputa, as your Excellency has recently done, in order to realise the enormous strides that are being made in the opening up and development of this country ever since Her Majesty was graciously pleased to grant a Royal Charter to the British South Africa Company. The completion of the railway to Vryburg and the continuation of the line (already surveyed) to Mafeking; the construction of the telegraph with iron poles to the Makloutsi and the Tati, the digging of wells, the making of roads, the building and fortifying of camps at commanding points, and the vastly increased traffic with waggons laden with stores and merchandise of all kinds along the great route to the north and north-east, all testify to the new life which the prospect of untold wealth in the goldfields of Mashonaland has already infused into this country.

The work done by the Bechuanaland Border Police at the new camp at Gaberone's station in the Southern Protectorate, and more especially at the camp on the Matlaputa, near the Makloutsi, on what is now the direct road to Mashonaland, is worthy of the highest praise.

Major Grey's carefully prepared and very modest report conveys little or no idea of the magnitude of the work achieved in a remarkably short space of time by him and the officers and men under his command. Where all are entitled to such high credit it might seem invidious to mention names; but I venture to express a hope that the meritorious services of the officers of Her Majesty's regular forces seconded for duty with the mounted police in this country may be brought in due course to the notice of their official

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superiors in England. I trust that the long and valuable services of Major Hamilton Goold-Adams, of the Royal Scots, formerly Commandant on the temporary retirement of Colonel Sir F. Carrington, K.C.M.G., will be borne in mind.

It will be noted that some deaths from fever and dysentery have occurred in the force stationed in the Protectorate. The valley of the Limpopo is regarded in this country as a deadly fever bed at certain seasons, and great care should be taken in selecting the highest sites available for camps and townships throughout the Protectorate and countries beyond.

I cannot forbear from referring to the recent death of the Master of Elphinstone at Palla Camp on the Limpopo, although, strictly speaking, this painful subject does not properly fall within the scope of the present report. This gallant and promising young officer, who had endeared himself to all who knew him in this country, fell a martyr to duty in the great work of establishing British power, and thereby extending the blessings of peace and civilisation in Central Africa. No consideration could induce him to swerve from what he regarded as the path of duty; he suffered much in silence, and his name will be remembered among those heroic pioneers who have laid down their lives for England in Africa.

Perhaps the most remarkable event of the year has been the brilliantly successful march of Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather, of the 6th Dragoons, from the Makloutsi Camp to Mount Hampden in Mashonaland. The forces of the British South Africa Company commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather, including the pioneers under Major Johnson, were guided by the well-known hunter, Mr. F. C. Selous, who was accompanied by Dr. Jameson, of Kimberley. A new road had to be cut as the force advanced; the route lay along the flank of the most powerful native tribe south of the Zambesi. In the not improbable event of a conflict the gallant little band might have been outnumbered at any point on the line of march in the proportion of at least twenty to one; they calmly and deliberately faced the risk of a second Isandlana; no possible precaution was omitted; nothing was left to chance; and the result was a triumph which deserves to take rank amongst the great achievements of British audacity.

For cool daring, perfect discipline, and steady determination the little force under Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather could hardly be surpassed.

The prevalence of horse sickness and the consequent heavy losses in the Protectorate last season must occasion much anxiety as to the question of maintaining a mounted force in the north-east of Bechuanaland. For all purposes of transport oxen are the cheapest, hardiest, and most reliable animals for this country, when time is not a paramount object. When time is all important, as in sending despatches in the event of a sudden outbreak of hostilities beyond the line of telegraph, or where the telegraph has been cut, there could not of course be two opinions

as to the advantage of employing the "ship of the desert." Those acquainted with use of camels elsewhere appear to think that these animals might be successfully introduced into the northern part of Bechuanaland and also into Mashonaland. The climate would probably present the chief difficulty. Throughout Bechuanaland the cold in the winter nights is intense, and the variations of temperature are sudden and extreme.

Before quitting the subject of the Bechuanaland Border Police I desire to place on record my opinion that the present force ought to be increased by at least fifty men and officers for the Crown Colony, and fifty men, with six additional Maxim guns, for the Protectorate, as soon as possible. Into all the reasons for this opinion I need not now enter. It may suffice to say that we are threatened with serious trouble on the western border of Gordonia; that the chiefs in the Southern Protectorate are all more or less disaffected; and that to my mind there appear to be symptoms of restlessness among the natives in the Protectorate which demand consideration on our part. We are holding vast territories with a very small force, and as a necessary consequence our native policy is far less firm than it ought to be. A sudden rising would find us unprepared; we trust too much to our justice and gentleness, forgetting that the potentiality of force must be ever present in order to secure the respect and loyalty of uncivilised natives.

The report of the Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General exhibits a marked improvement in the revenue for the first half of the present financial year as compared with that of the first half of the last financial year; and there appear to be good grounds for hoping that this increase of prosperity may be maintained and that the revenue in the next financial year will far exceed that of the current year. It is gratifying to observe that both farming and mercantile interests are deriving substantial benefits from the introduction of capital by the British South Africa Company with a view to northern development.

The report of the Crown Prosecutor shows a great increase in the number of crimes and offences of minor kind in consequence of the influx of railway labourers; but this may be regarded as temporary. There can, however, be no doubt that with the advent of a much larger European population, in consequence of the opening of the railway, provision will have to be made for a better administration of justice by means of a Recorder's Court with trial by jury. A suitable court room for the Resident Magistrate of Vryburg, and a substantial gaol at Upington, are among the most urgent needs of the territory at present.

It will be seen from the report of the Surveyor-General that the extent of land sold, and the amount received for it, compare favourably with the returns of former years. The farm surveys have been extended westward as far as the eastern limit of Gordonia. The township of Vryburg has been surveyed. The survey of the police farms in the division of Mafeking has been completed. Native reserves have been marked out at Boteetelets,

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Maneering, and Koning, while other reserves have been partially surveyed at Motito, Lower Kuruman, and the Langberg. Besides large tracts of land sold, a block of 12,000 square miles has been set apart for the British South Africa Company in consideration of railway construction. On the whole the work and progress of the Survey Department during the past year may be regarded as highly satisfactory. Mr. Duncan's services merit special recognition.

The report of the Registrar of Deeds shows a considerable increase in the revenue of his department during the past year. Land is now being sold in this territory at remarkably advanced prices in comparison with former years, and appears to be eagerly sought after by farmers from the Cape Colony, Transvaal, and Orange Free State.

The work in the Deeds Registry Office has been admirably done by Mr. Genis hitherto; but is now increased so much as to render it indispensably necessary that efficient clerical assistance should be afforded to this meritorious officer without delay.

The report of the Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs exhibits a steady growth in the work and revenue of these departments. Fresh tenders have been called for in consequence of the construction of the railway and the desirability of altering the postal route in the Protectorate. Increased expenditure is inevitable; but, on the other hand, considerable increase of revenue may now be confidently expected.

The Inspector of Native Reserves and Collector of Hut-tax reports that the natives have done their best to meet the demands of the law. With regard to native reserves Mr. St. Quintin states that in his opinion they will be overstocked and prove too small; and on this account, he says that sufficient attention has not been paid to the requirements of the natives. Mr. St. Quintin adds that at the time of the Land Court (in 1886) numbers of natives had fled the country with their stock, but that they have since returned and that their stock has been annually increasing. He might go further and say with perfect truth that considerable numbers of natives who have no right whatever to occupy land in this territory have crept into it from time to time in order to enjoy the benefits of British rule. I note with satisfaction Mr. St. Quintin's zeal or behalf of the natives; but I cannot admit the force of his arguments on the correctness of his inferences. The land settlement of 1886 was by far the most liberal ever made in South Africa as regarded the natives; and the only persons who then complained of it were the white claimants disappointed by the awards made in favour of natives. That in course of time, under a system of Government so favourable to the increase of unemployed native population, the reserves should become, so to speak, congested is only what might be expected. The remedy is not to deprive Europeans of their land but rather to induce the young native men, who now lounge about and live on female labour, to go forth and earn wages for themselves. The farmers

in this territory universally complain that they cannot obtain labourers on any terms; while hundreds of idle young natives grumble because they have not sufficient of the arable land out of which they expect their women to maintain them. It is a humiliating spectacle to see, throughout the territory, women, with babies tied behind them, vigorously hoeing the ground while their lord and master is reclining at ease or, perhaps, exerting himself sufficiently to smoke. Doubtless this state of things represents the normal relations of the sexes in all savage countries; but I fail to see that the man who will not spontaneously work for himself has any claim to sympathy when driven to labour by want. The fact is that the Bechuana is among the feeblest and least energetic of the South African types; he expects to be fed, clothed, and maintained in comfort all his life without any exertion on his own part; and in order to secure this exemption from toil he demands perfect liberty to roam all over the country, selecting the best springs and land, and changing his place of residence as often as the fancy seizes him. European men who are without means have to work hard in order to maintain themselves and their families, and the sooner our pampered natives are taught the same lesson the better it will be both for them and for us.

The Government Storekeeper in his report lays stress on the desirability of appointing an ordnance and commissariat officer at Mafeking. I concur in the view that such an appointment is now necessary; but as regards purchases and contracts, I consider that all payments should be under the immediate control of the Receiver-General, of whose department the office of Government Storekeeper might virtually form a branch.

The report of the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court, who is also Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg and Superintendent of the Central Prison, shows the difficulty of performing so many different duties in a really satisfactory manner. The work of the Master's office is confessedly in an unsatisfactory state, and I see no remedy for it, save in the establishment of a High Court of Justice with a specially appointed Master and Registrar.

The reports from the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates of the five districts into which British Bechuanaland is divided are, generally speaking, very satisfactory and do not appear to call for special remarks.

District Surgeons have recently been appointed for Taungs and Gordonia, and it is hoped that a District Surgeon may also be found for Kuruman, where the Rev. A. J. Wookey, of the London Missionary Society, has, for some time past, given the inhabitants the benefit of his medical skill.

The inhabitants of Vryburg and of the territory generally are most grateful for the grant promised for the purpose of building a hospital. I am in correspondence with Dr. Fitzgerald, the

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esteemed Superintendent of the Native Hospital at Kingwilliamstown, as to the most advantageous way of expending the grant in question.

A Superintendent of Public Buildings competent to make architectural designs and act as Clerk of Works is now much needed here, and I trust that it may be possible to secure the services of an officer competent to perform these duties, provided the necessary provision be made in next year's estimates.

I am happy on this occasion to be able to submit to your Excellency a report showing greater prosperity and reasonable grounds for brighter hopes as to the future of this territory than in any previous year since its annexation to Her Majesty's Dominions. I have much pleasure in recording my appreciation of the excellent work done by all members of the Civil Service here in every branch of the Administration, and my deep and lasting obligations to these gentlemen. It has, I know, afforded them great satisfaction to have had the honour and pleasure of meeting your Excellency in the course of your late arduous journey through Bechuanaland.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SIDNEY SHIPPARD,
Administrator and Deputy Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Governor and
High Commissioner, Cape Town.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE, 1889–90.

The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1888–89 was compiled to the 14th August 1889, on which date the head-quarters of the regiment were stationed at Elebe.

I.—*Strength last Report.*

The strength of the regiment on the 14th August 1889 was as follows, viz. :—4 troops, consisting of 18 officers, 29 non commissioned officers, and 288 troopers: total, all ranks, 335. One troop, consisting of 3 officers, 6 non-commissioned officers, and 63 troopers, being stationed in Bechuanaland, and the remaining three troops, with the exception of a few men at out-stations (on the postal route), at Elebe.

II.—*Increase of Strength.*

An increase of the force by one troop was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government in the early part of the year 1890 (for which purpose a special vote of 25,000*l.* has been granted) to be stationed in the Southern Protectorate.

The number of officers has increased by four, necessitated by the augmentation of the force by one troop, and by the sanction by Her Majesty's Government of a quartermaster.

The following appointments, promotions, &c. have taken place during the year:—

Lieutenant R. E. Benson, 1st E. York Regiment, appointed Lieutenant, 11th July 1889.

Lieutenant E. C. C. Turner, transferred to B.S.A.C.P., 21st February 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant W. F. Bruce, promoted to Lieutenant, 22nd February 1890.

Lieutenant W. F. Bruce, transferred to the B.S.A.C.P., 1st March 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant G. P. L. Pemberton, promoted Lieutenant, 1st March 1890.

Quartermaster-Sergeant C. A. L. Ricketts, B.B.P., appointed Lieutenant and Quartermaster, 16th May 1890.

The Hon. the Master of Elphinstone, appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 26th May 1890.

Sergeant A. V. Gosling, B.B.P., promoted Sub-Lieutenant, 13th June 1890.

Corporal R. C. Dobson, B.S.A.C.P., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 13th June 1890.

Arthur Snow, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 2nd June 1890.

Captain C. F. M. McGregor reverts to Lieutenant, 15th April 1890.

Lieutenant Fuller, promoted Captain, 16th April 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant Allan Wight, promoted Lieutenant, 15th May 1890.

Lieutenant R. E. Benson, resigns on account of ill-health, 16th May 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant the Master of Elphinstone, promoted Lieutenant, 18th June 1890.

Captain and Adjutant A. Bates, appointed Captain "K" Troop, 1st July 1890.

Captain W. F. Coleman, appointed Adjutant, 1st July 1890.

Sub-Lieutenant W. G. Holt's services dispensed with, 20th May 1890.

Dr. A. P. Green, resigns, 22nd July 1890.

Harold Crichton-Browne, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 18th June 1890.

The Rev. Mr. Trusted, appointed Chaplain with relative rank of Captain, 1st June 1890.

Dr. Veitch, appointed Medical Officer, 23 July 1890.

A. E. Walsh, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 3rd August 1890.

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III.—*Present Strength.*

The force is now divided into five troops, and the following is the present strength and constitution, exclusive of natives, on the 14th August 1890:—

Colonel Commandant - - -	1
Majors - - - - -	2
Captains - - - - -	5
Lieutenants - - - -	5
Sub-Lieutenants - - - -	5
Quartermaster - - - -	1
Paymaster - - - - -	1
Medical Officer - - - -	1
Chaplain - - - - -	1
Total officers - - -	22
Total non-commissioned officers of all ranks - - - -	39
Total troopers - - -	375
Grand Total - -	436

IV.—*Casualties.*

The following statement shows in detail all casualties among officers, non-commissioned officers, and troopers, during the year:—

Increase and Decrease.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Staff Officers.	Total.	Staff Sergeants.	Troop Sergeant-Majors.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	S. Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers.	Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers.	Grand Total.
Strength on 14th August 1889 -	3	4	4	4	3	18	3	4	5	17	4	284	317	335	335
Appointments - - -	—	1	2	5	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
Promotions - - -	—	1	3	—	—	4	2	5	10	26	4	5	52	56	56
Reductions - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reversions - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	3
Recruits - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	270	270	270	270
Increas - -	3	6	9	9	5	32	5	9	15	43	8	562	642	674	674

Increase and Decrease.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Sub-Lieutenants.	Staff Officers.	Total.	Staff Sergeants.	Troop Sergeant-Majors.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	S. Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers.	Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Troopers.	Grand Total.
Resignations	—	—	3	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Dismissed	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Promotions	—	—	1	3	—	4	1	—	4	13	—	32	50	54	54
Appointments	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
Reversions	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	4	5	5
Discharges — By request	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	39	42	42	42
Discharges — Misconduct	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	44	44	44
Discharges — Medically unfit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	4
Desertions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	17	17	17
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	3
Expirations of service	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	9	1	51	66	66	66
Decrease	—	1	4	4	2	11	2	4	9	23	3	190	231	242	242
Present strength	3	5	5	5	3	21	3	5	6	20	5	372	411	432	432

V.—*Promotion.*

The promotions during the year have been apportioned as far as practicable by seniority.

VI.—*Discharges.*

Of the 42 shown as discharged "by request," the majority were men who were unfitted generally for service in a sub-tropical climate, and their vacancies have been filled up by men of a more robust stamp.

Fourteen were men who, in one batch, were specially permitted transfer to the British South Africa Company's police. The remainder were men who were allowed to avail themselves of the privilege of purchasing their discharges, under authority of his Excellency the High Commissioner dated April 1888.

Of the 44 discharged for misconduct, 39 were recruits, or men with very short service, whom it was found undesirable to retain in the force, and they were discharged when it was proved that they were not to be depended upon for service up country.

Of the remaining five, four were sent down country in the early part of the year as indifferent characters and have since been

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discharged there; one man was discharged at the Pakwe for misconduct.

Four men were discharged as medically unfit, which may be attributed to natural causes.

VII.—*Desertions.*

Of the 17 desertions stated, four men deserted from Ramoutsa (where they were stationed after the troops went up country), but owing to the close proximity of the Transvaal they were not recaptured. These men deserted wi hout horses, but took other Government property with them.

Four men deserted from Elebe in October 1889, taking with them four Government horses. Two non-commissioned officers were immediately sent after them with instructions to proceed into the Transvaal, where it was asc rtained they had gone, and endeavour, if possible, to arrest them.

With the assistance of the British Agent and by the friendly co-operation of the Transvaal Government, three of these deserters were captured and afterwards tried at Pretoria, convicted of horse theft, and sentenced to three months' hard labour.

Three of the horses were recovered and brought back to Elebe.

Two recruits, who deserted from Mafeking in October 1889, were recaptured and sentenced by the Resident Magistrate at Mafeking to four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Two recruits deserted from Mafeking without taking Government property in April and July last, but were not recaptured.

One recruit deserted on the line of march in April last, one day's journey from Mafeking, but took no Government property.

One man deserted whilst a patient in the hospital at Elebe, and it was feared at one time that he had wandered away in a fit of temporary insanity and had lost himself.

Immediate search was made, but without success.

A board of officers was ultimately convened and the opinion was that the man had deserted. This opinion was afterwards confirmed by information received from his friends in the Transvaal.

Three men deserted from head-quarters, Macloutsie, on the 2nd August 1890, taking with them three Government horses.

Up to the present time they have not been recaptured.

I have sent out patrols along the various routes leading to the Transvaal to endeavour to stop them before they cross the border, and I have received information from the officer in charge of one of the said parties that he is following the deserters to Pretoria, where I hope, with the assistance of the British Agent, to have them arrested and punished and to recover the stolen horses. If successful I have no doubt it will effectually put a stop to desertions from the Protectorate.

VIII.—*Deaths.*

I regret to have to report three deaths during the year, viz. :—

Trooper Jarvis in Elebe, by the accidental discharge of his revolver.

Trooper Shaw at Notwani, from natural causes.

Trooper Smith at Elebe, from natural causes.

IX.—*Native Strength.*

The native strength of the regiment remains the same as last year, excluding K troop, but a great many changes take place among the natives as they are very reluctant to remain more than two or three months away from their families.

The Chief Khama has given great assistance by sending natives to fill up the vacancies caused by desertions and discharges of the boys originally brought from Elebe.

The number of natives at present on the strength, excluding K troop, is 64.

X.—*Transport Waggons, &c.*

The transport capacity of the force, excluding "K" troop, also remains the same as last year, and consists of 22 waggons, four Scotch carts, and 10 water carts.

These are in constant repair, and, considering the dry weather and incessant work, are in fair order.

XI.—*Horse Strength.*

The number of Government horses on the strength of the force on the 14th of August 1889 was 353, since which date 293 horses have been purchased at an average of 17*l.* each, making a total of 646 horses which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year.

With the exception of 29 for "K" troop these purchases were made to replace horses which have died during the year from the following causes.

Two hundred and sixty-one horses have died from horse sickness; 13 have been destroyed suffering from farcy; two were lost and have been paid for, and 50 from other causes; making a total decrease of 326, thus leaving the present strength of horses in the force, on the 14th day of August 1890, 320.

XII.—*Horse Sickness.*

From the above list of casualties it will be seen that the majority of deaths were caused by horse sickness, as in the preceding year.

On the 14th August 1889 there were 279 horses in the three troops in the Protectorate, and on the 14th June 1890 there were

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

only 31 horses remaining alive, and, with the exception of a small number, these horses all died from horse sickness.

Horses in Bechuanaland have not suffered in anything like the same proportion from this disease; the deaths there, in most instances, being attributable to farcy and general causes.

I have made it my special care to endeavour to discover a preventive for this disease.

I find that in this part of the country, if horses are allowed to graze during any part of the day, a certain per-centage are sure to contract the sickness; rough stables have, therefore, been erected in which the horses are always kept, and since this has been done I find that the number of sick has greatly decreased. To compensate for the loss of grazing, the horses are fed upon a nutritious reed that grows in abundance in the neighbourhood.

No cure has as yet been found, but a certain number have recovered and thus become salted.

XIII.—*Transport Animals and Casualties.*

The mule strength on the 14th August 1889 was 89, and on the 21st May 1890 6 were purchased at an average of 15*l.*, making a total of 95 mules which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year.

During that period 43 casualties have occurred, leaving the present strength 52.

The casualties were as follows:—Two from farcy, 29 from natural causes, and 11 lent to the postal service, and which died whilst on duty on the line of communication between Mafeking and Elebe in October 1889, when that service was taken over by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.

These 11 mules were urgently required to prevent delay in the transit of mails.

The bullock strength on the 14th August 1889 was 356. Three oxen were purchased in May 1890 and 76, on the augmentation of the force, for "K" troop; making a total of 435 oxen which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year. Twenty-seven casualties have occurred, leaving the present strength 402.

One only was lost, and the remainder died from lung sickness, poverty, and natural causes.

The transport work in the Protectorate during the current year has been very heavy, and the number of casualties compare very favourably with last year's viz., 27 this year as against 41 the previous year.

XIV.—*Equipment.*

The new saddles, supplied for the force prior to the 14th August 1889, have answered their purpose well, and are all in good condition and sufficient to keep the field for some time.

The clothing of the men has undergone no alteration since the preceding year, but yellow pigskin leggings have been

suggested to replace the putties at present in use, the latter articles of equipment being found to be unsuitable for the work in the bush country of the Protectorate.

XV.—*Forage.*

The forage for the regiment is supplied by the Government storekeeper of British Bechuanaland as heretofore.

XVI.—*Armament.*

The armament of the force on the 14th August 1889 was as follows:—

For artillery: six 7-pounder field guns, with the necessary equipment and ammunition.
One Maxim gun and 20,000 rounds of ammunition.
Small arms, exclusive of "K" troop, 437 Martini-Henri rifles, 18 revolvers, and 217 Snider rifles.

The only additions to the armament of the force since my last return are 200 bayonets for the Protectorate (to which allusion was made in the return for 1888–1889), one 7-pounder field gun and 2 Nordenfeldts, with the necessary equipment and ammunition, which were supplied for "K" troop upon its formation.

Two 7-pounder field guns were lent to the British South Africa Company's forces, and are still in their possession.

The amount of small-arm ammunition on charge of the regiment at the present date is as follows:—

Protectorate -	-	291,635 rounds.
Bechuanaland	-	222,830 „

XVII.—*Special Employment.*

On the 14th August 1889 five men were employed in Matebeleland as escort to the Reverend J. S. Moffat, C.M.G., Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate.

They returned from that country with the Assistant Commissioner in February 1890, and after remaining down country about three months returned to Matebeleland the latter end of May 1890.

XVIII.—*Regimental Works.*

On the date on which the last annual return terminated the men were busy erecting huts and stores and building a small fort on the top of a stony kopje at Elebe. These works were all completed in due course before the rainy season set in, and the accommodation for the men was all that could be desired.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

XIX.—*Move of Head-quarters.*

In April last orders were received to move the force stationed at Elebe to a position near the junction of the Matlaputa with the Macloutsie rivers.

The whole force left Elebe on the 18th April 1890, and reached the vicinity of the proposed site on the 27th of the same month.

A suitable position on high ground, and commanding excellent water, was decided on, and a strong fort was made and the station placed in a thorough state of defence. Since then large huts have been built for the accommodation of the men, and iron stores erected for the storing of Government property and hospital accommodation.

I have great satisfaction in reporting the cordial assistance that has been rendeed me by the Chief Khama, by sending men of his tribe to assist me in clearing the dense bush, and building huts, &c., &c.

XX.—*Out-stations, Bechuanaland.*

During the year additional out-stations have been formed, viz.:—At Gordonia, Langberg, and Dry Hartz. At Gordonia this was found necessary on account of the withdrawal of the Cape police from that station, and at the Langberg and Dry Hartz the reported increase of cattle theft rendered it advisable to establish out-stations there.

All the out-stations in Bechuanaland are visited monthly by an officer, and an inspection report furnished to the commanding officer.

The work during the past year has been carried on at all the out-stations, without any exceptions, in a satisfactory manner.

XXI.—*Out-stations, Protectorate.*

When the contract for the conveyance of mails from Mafeking to head-quarters at Elebe was taken up by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, it was found unnecessary to leave the men at the various out-stations along the line of communication; the following detachments were therefore recalled to head-quarters at Elebe:—

Boulder Pits, Drie Kopjes, Mahalapsie, Limpopo or Crocodile River (or Bath's Station), and 'Nwapa or Selika, and the following stations only are now maintained in the Protectorate:—

Palla Camp (or Notwani Junction), three men; Lenchwe's, two men; Molepolole, two men; and Kanya, two men.

XXII.—*Arrests and Convictions.*

During the year 116 arrests have been made, and 84 convictions were obtained. Last year 84 convictions were obtained against 156 arrests.

XXIII.—*Special Patrols.*

Lieutenant the Honourable C. J. Coventry, in command, Sub-Lieut. G. P. L. Pemberton with two non-commissioned officers and six troopers of the Bechuanaland Border Police, proceeded on the 26th August 1889, on patrol into the disputed territory for the purpose of searching that portion of the country lying between the lower portions of the Shashi, Tuli, Limpopo, and Macloutsie Rivers; the object being to ascertain whether there were any white people residing in that district either with the object of shooting or prospecting for minerals.

Instructions were given that the party was not to interfere in any way with any parties of Matebele they might meet.

In November 1889 Lieutenant Fuller was sent, by order of Her Majesty's Government, to interview the Chief Batwen at Kanya, for the purpose of making arrangements with reference to the sinking of wells in his country by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, for the supply of water to the post-stations.

On January 3rd, 1890, one corporal and four men proceeded to Palapye to form an escort to the envoys sent by Her Majesty's Government to King Lo Bengula, and a letter was received from Captain V. J. Ferguson, Royal Horse Guards, dated 21st February 1890, expressing his satisfaction at the behaviour of the party.

On July 4th, 1890, Captain Fuller visited Sechele at Molepolole to inquire into the alleged taking away of goods from a trooper in the Bechuanaland Border Police by natives at that station.

On July 27th, 1890, Captain Fuller visited Lenchwe at Mochudi to inquire into certain disturbances said to have occurred there on account of the proposed construction of the telegraph line through his country.

XXIV.—*Patrols, &c., Distances travelled.*

The number of miles travelled on patrol, despatch riding and other duties during the year is as follows:—

British Bechuanaland - - -	82,777
In the Protectorate - - -	101,130
Total miles travelled - -	183,907

XXV.—*Signal Stations.*

On the 22nd August 1889 Lieutenant E. C. Chamley Turner proceeded on patrol with one non-commissioned officer and three troopers for the purpose of selecting sites for signal stations to establish communication with Palapye and the Tati.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

On the 23rd November 1889 Lieutenant Turner with one non-commissioned officer and 15 men proceeded on patrol to place signallers at the following stations:—Tanopi, Palapye, Manani, and Selebe.

The Selebe station was placed near the Tati Drift on the Macloutsie river, and the duty of the signallers stationed there was to heliograph any news of importance from Tati.

Manani was the intermediate station between Elebe and Selebe.

These two stations were shortly afterwards withdrawn, but the communication with Palapye proved most serviceable, and has continued up to the present date.

On the removal of the troops to the Macloutsie two new signal stations were formed, by which means communication could be kept up with Palapye, and the work has been carried on in a very systematic manner, and has to a great extent supplied the want of a telegraph line to that place.

XXVI.—*Postal Service.*

A postal service has been established between Palapye and Macloutsie camp, by means of Scotch carts and relays of oxen, for the purpose of conveying the mails of the Bechuanaland Border Police and of the British South Africa Company.

This duty I consider to have been performed in a most satisfactory manner, the distance (120 miles) being covered in an average of 30 hours.

No extra expense is attached to this service.

XXVII.—*Medical Officer's Report.*

From the attached report of the medical officer at Macloutsie, it appears that during the year there have been in the Protectorate 783 cases of illness, and out of this number no less than 194 cases were fever patients, two of which were fatal.

The epidemic of fever at Elebe may be attributed to the low elevation of the country, and the proximity of the station to the Crocodile river; and I have every hope that the new station at Macloutsie may be found to be more healthy on account of its higher elevation and more open character.

XXVIII.—*Increase of Pay.*

Orders were received in August last that Her Majesty's Government have been pleased to grant 1*s.* per diem extra pay to non-commissioned officers and men of over two years' service, to take effect from 1st April 1890.

This grant has given every satisfaction, and will probably have the effect of inducing men who have been trained and become thoroughly efficient to remain in the regiment for a longer period than the two years for which they were originally engaged.

XXIX.—*Inspection.*

In the month of June a minute inspection of the regiment was made by Major-General the Hon. Paul Methuen, C.B., C.M.G., both as to its military efficiency and interior economy.

The inspecting officer, in the course of his remarks, expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with what he had seen, and said that he considered the satisfactory condition of the regiment to be due to the admirable manner in which the captains commanding troops performed their duties. I mention this to your Honour because I consider it due to these officers that their valuable services should be placed on record.

XXX.—*Report on Officers.*

I desire to bring to your Honour's special notice the valuable assistance that has been rendered me by the officers and staff of the regiment.

Their duties have at all times been performed in a highly satisfactory and intelligent manner, and by their energetic example the hard work of the past year has been cheerfully met by all ranks.

R. GREY, Major,
Commanding Bechuanaland
Border Police, Protectorate;
for Colonel Commandant.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER AT MACLOUTSIE.

The annual sick report for the year ending August 14th, 1890, is as follows:—

During the year there have been 783 cases of illness.

Of these, 510 occurred at Elebe Camp between the 14th August 1889, and April 18th, 1890, and 273 cases at Macloutsie Camp from the 18th of April 1890 to August 14th, 1890.

I may point out that a number of the cases at Macloutsie occurred just after the arrival of the men from Elebe.

A classification of the causes of illness I have made on the next page.

Deaths, 3.

Trooper Smith died, March 5th, 1890, from fever followed by phthisis.

Trooper Jarvis died, April 26th, 1889 [1890?], from bullet wound in intestine (accidental).

Trooper Shaw died, April 1890, at the Junction Camp, from fever.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

ELEBE CAMP.

Total Number of Sick, 510.

Disease.			
Fever		Treated in hospital	149
„		„ as out-patients	13
Dysentery		„ in hospital	17
Diarrhœa		„ „ „	5
„		„ as out-patients	32
Ordinary ailments		„ daily	294
		Total	510

MACLOUTSIE CAMP.

Total Number of Sick, 273.

Disease.			
Fever		Admitted to hospital	26
„		Treated as out-patients	6
Dysentery		Admitted to hospital	3
Diarrhœa		„ „ „	7
„		Treated as out-patients	15
Ordinary ailments		„ daily	216
		Total	273

(Signed) QUINTEN R. VEITCH,
Medical Officer,
Bechuanaland Border Police.

REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE IN BECHUANALAND.

To the Officer Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police, Macloutsie.

In the absence of a medical officer belonging to the Bechuanaland Border Police, and through the men of the troop being so scattered on out-stations, &c., I have deemed it advisable to report myself on the general health of the troop.

On all the out-stations in British Bechuanaland and at Vryburg and Taungs the health of the men has been very good.

One man had to be relieved from Lenchwe's station suffering from fever, this was the only case in the Protectorate, and the man has now quite recovered and returned to duty.

The health of the men stationed at Mafeking has also been exceedingly good, though a good many show on the sick report; this being accounted for by the fact that a number of men were transferred to this troop from the troops stationed at Elebe, who had to be sent to hospital with fever on, or shortly after, their arrival here.

Only one death occurred in the troop, that of Trooper Shaw, from fever and dysentery on the Crocodile River, whilst on his way down to join this troop to which he had been transferred from E troop.

(Signed) J. W. FULLER, Captain,
Commanding "A" Troop,
Bechuanaland Border Police.

13th August 1890,
Mafeking.

REPORT OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AND RECEIVER-GENERAL.

Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's Office,
Vryburg, November 22, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report of this department for the year ending the 30th of September last.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue of the first half of the present financial year as against that of the first half of the last financial year :—

—	1st April to 30th September 1889.	1st April to 30th September 1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - -	714 0 0	1,172 15 0
Licenses - - - -	679 6 6	677 5 0
Revenue stamps - - -	491 6 0	905 16 3
Transfer duty - - -	855 4 0	961 16 6
Auction duty - - - -	40 3 10	104 1 8
Fees and fines - - - -	147 12 6	387 8 5
Survey receipts - - - -	256 19 7	983 7 4
Post Office { Colony - - -	574 0 8	925 10 9
Post Office { Protectorate - -	268 7 4	600 9 7
Telegraphs - - - -	519 9 5	1,114 13 6
Quit-rents - - - -	755 3 4	2,097 15 8
Other rents - - - -	—	82 16 10
Sale of Government property - -	24 13 5	526 3 1
Sundries - - - -	—	13 10 3
Sunday receipts in aid - - -	216 0 11	523 5 0
	5,542 7 6	11,076 14 10
Land sales - - - -	16 3 4	2,836 5 9
	5,558 10 10	13,913 0 7

The foregoing figures show a marked increase in every item except that of licenses, which remains at almost the same figure as in the preceding year. It is quite certain, however, that the revenue from licenses in the month of January next, when most of the licenses for this territory are issued, will show a very marked increase on that of last January.

The increase shown under the headings of transfer duty, survey receipts, quit-rent, and land sales are specially satisfactory as indicating an appreciable rise in the value of land, a genuine introduction of working capital for agricultural and pastoral purposes, and a solid accession of producing power to the farmers of the territory.

The advance made in the collection of hut tax is also noticeable, and bears out Mr. St. Quintin's statement, that the natives have been doing their best to meet the requirements of the law.

The figures under the headings of post office and telegraphs show a considerable increase: much of this is no doubt due to the recent extensions of the postal and telegraph system northward; and a still larger revenue under these heads may, on that account, safely be calculated on for the remaining half of the year.

So general and marked an increase of revenue is traceable chiefly to two events in South African history which have occurred in the period under review, viz.:—

The expedition under the auspices of the British South Africa Company through the territories of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Matebeleland, and Mashonaland, and the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg.

The former work has been making uninterrupted progress for nearly a year, and the path of the pioneer and the policeman from Kimberley to Mount Hampden is now being closely followed by the prospector. Both the Government and the public of this territory have no doubt largely benefited by the expenditure on these three services.

The construction of the railway through this territory from its southern border to Vryburg has also put in circulation a large sum of money in the territory. It is a matter for regret that of the amount paid as wages by contractors a very small proportion has been earned by natives of this territory, who, of all the natives in South Africa, seem the least disposed to manual labour. Farmers and merchants have, however, benefited greatly by the influx of population, both white and coloured.

A report on the revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the past year would be incomplete without some allusion to the unfortunate accident early in July, whereby the entry of this territory into the Customs Union was announced and then postponed.

The loss of revenue to the Colony under this head from the 1st of July last to the 1st of January next would amount to at least 4,000*l*. While the intimation conveyed of the approaching entry of the Government into the Union has been utilised to such an extent by merchants, storekeepers, and consumers alike, that unless existing stocks, or a portion of them, are held liable for the full duty comparatively little revenue may be expected from this service for a year or more.

Statements of expenditure for the two half years have also been prepared. Owing, however, to the alteration in the classification of the services under the new estimates, they cannot be presented in a very intelligible or concise form for the purposes of comparison, nor are they valuable as indicating the normal rate of expenditure in the territory, on account of the exceptionally heavy payments made in the course of equipping, arming, and mounting the increased force of police in the Protectorate.

They will be found as annexures to this report.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

The question of the expenditure on forage and grain for the police has this year been the subject of much discussion. The practice of giving out contracts for the different divisions in the Colony and for the whole of the Protectorate has been abandoned, and in its stead large purchases have been made chiefly through an agent.

There can be no doubt that a substantial saving has been effected in this particular year, owing to the extravagantly high prices demanded by the contractors having been declined, and to the favourable opportunities presented since for the purchase of mealies and forage. Now that it is probable that a contract, if submitted for tender, would be the subject of more genuine competition, it will perhaps be considered advisable to revert to the old system.

The disadvantages of the present arrangement, are the difficulty of fixing the responsibility of keeping up the supply on any particular officer, and the general objection entertained to the systematic employment of a commission agent.

Failing a reversion to the contract system, much good might be effected by empowering civil commissioners to purchase locally, at prices to be approved by Government, from farmers in their district.

Such a measure would give the farmers confidence by holding out a certain market to them for the disposal of their crops to a purchaser who would pay a good price promptly and in cash.

Allusion has already been made to the indifference of the natives of this territory to take up work. Many of them have lands to till in their own reserves, but the majority are too lazy, and the difficulty of obtaining labour is the one with which the farmers of this territory have to contend, and drives many of them to the less laborious and at present lucrative occupation of transport riding.

A serious loss to the working capital of the country is annually caused by horse sickness. During this last year the epidemic was exceptionally virulent. In the months of January, February, and March no less than 191 horses of the Bechuanaland Border Police died out of a total of some 300, while in the town and district of Vryburg alone at least three-quarters of the horses died during the summer.

A loss of this magnitude is in itself a serious tax on the inhabitants of the territory, and appears to be an item which must be taken into consideration when considering the general progress being made by the community.

In spite of the two difficulties I have mentioned, the condition of the farmers in the territory appears to be improving and with it the trade of the country increases.

With regard to this no statistics have as yet been obtained possibly the taking of the census next year may afford an occasion

for arriving at various figures relating to the farming population, both white and coloured, which later on would be extremely valuable.

I have, &c.

His Honour
The Administrator,
Vryburg.

(Signed) F. J. NEWTON,
Colonial Secretary and
Receiver-General.

Statement of Expenditure during the Six Months, April to September 1889.

Head of Expenditure.	1st April to 30th September 1889.
Establishments.	£ s. d.
Salaries, fixed	5,724 9 6
Pensions	275 0 0
Services.	
Police, Bechuanaland Border	11,651 11 0
Posts and telegraphs	2,280 10 0
Gaols and constables	301 1 5
Administration of justice	63 7 6
Education	—
Public works	1,473 19 10
Office contingencies	573 1 4
Transport	570 9 5
Advertising and printing	164 2 3
Medical expenses	37 11 9
Revenue services	38 17 6
Miscellaneous	170 12 1
Survey expenses	1,830 18 5
Protectorate	22,416 11 3
Refunds	0 2 0
Total	47,572 5 3

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Statement of Expenditure during the Six Months, April to September 1890.

—	Head of Expenditure.	1st April to the 30th September 1890.		
		£	*s.*	*d.*
1	Pensions	658	6	8
2	Administrator's establishment	1,687	13	0
3	Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's department	880	5	3
4	Store department	299	13	1
5	Native affairs	488	10	7
6	Legal department	1,000	16	11
7	District administration	2,737	18	1
8	Posts and telegraphs	3,211	19	8
9	Police, Colony	10,339	11	0
„	„ Protectorate	40,757	18	7
10	Education	52	10	0
11	Transport, unclassified	313	10	0
12	Miscellaneous	1,045	1	7
13	Colonial Surveyor's department	4,041	13	3
14	Public works, recurrent	127	9	10
15	„ „ extraordinary	183	7	9
16	Assistant Commissioner, Protectorate	1,285	17	4
	„ „ additional	204	2	10
	High Commissioner's travelling	14	7	8
	Total	69,330	13	1

REPORT OF THE CROWN PROSECUTOR.

Crown Prosecutor's Office, Vryburg,
October 30, 1890.

SIR,

IN compliance with your request I have the honour to forward, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, the following report for the past year ending September 30th, 1890 :—

District of Vryburg.

The extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg has naturally been productive of a considerable increase of crime in this district, but I am pleased to inform you that, in spite of the

presence of a large number of Europeans and natives employed on the railway works, very few offences of a serious nature have occurred, the majority of cases tried having been contraventions of the Police Offences Act and assaults. Drunkenness amongst these employées has been frequent. I, however, am bound to state that in the case of the natives, most of whom are Colonial Kaffirs, the liquor was not supplied by licensed persons, but by half-castes, low-classed Europeans, and Indians, several of whom have been convicted for this offence.

The establishment of a police station at the Dry Hartz, and a proper system of patrol along the railway works, have effectually put a stop to trespasses by native railway employée's upon the neighbouring farms, and to disputes regarding the trespass of cattle between the natives residing on the Taungs Reserve and the farmers on the Vryburg and Taungs border.

In consequence of numerous complaints a proclamation authorising the appointment of a special justice of the peace for the Dry Hartz ward was promulgated, but no such official has as yet been appointed, nor do I think that there is now a necessity for such an appointment, in view of the fact that the difficulty of access to the Court at Vryburg on the part of complainants which existed has now entirely been removed by the advent of the railway.

I beg to draw your attention to the room at present used as a court house; it, in my opinion, is totally unsuited to the requirements of the district, and is a source of serious discomfort to the presiding magistrate and practitioners, there being no space for a prisoner's dock or witness-box, and no proper system of ventilation, an absolute necessity in summer, especially when the court, as frequently happens, is crowded with natives.

The central gaol has been filled by prisoners convicted locally, as well as by long-sentenced prisoners removed from other districts. It has been well managed and conducted by the present gaoler, whose valuable services I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice. I would, however, desire to point out that, in my opinion, the present gaol staff, consisting of a gaoler and a turnkey, is inadequate.

District of Mafeking.

There has been a slight increase of crime in this district, the number of cases tried being 123 Stock-thefts have decreased. Contraventions of the Liquor Law were fewer than during the preceding year.

A special justice of the peace was appointed for the district of Setlagoli some months ago, but I am not aware of any cases having been adjudicated upon by him. In the event of railway extension to Mafeking taking place, the establishment of a periodical Court at Setlagoli and additions to the Mafeking Gaol will be necessary.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

District of Taungs.

The criminal calendar for this district shows a great increase of stock-thefts during the past year; this was chiefly due to the influx of a large number of natives employed on the railway construction. The Batlapins have again proved themselves to be a quiet and law-abiding people. The friction between the Transvaal farmers and the natives residing on the border has, owing to the influence of Mr. Van Niekerk, Commissioner for the South-western Border of the South African Republic, considerably abated.

District of Kuruman.

The state of this district as far as crime is concerned has been most satisfactory.

District of Gordonia.

Very few cases of crime have occurred. The want of a proper gaol and gaoler's quarters is much felt.

General.

As his Honour the Administrator last year in his report expressed an opinion as to the necessity of the establishment of a Recorder's Court, and as this subject was laid before his Excellency the Governor on his late visit to this territory, it is unnecessary for me to report upon the matter; suffice it for me to say, that, in my opinion, the large influx of a European population, which has lately taken place and which will undoubtedly continue, fully warrants the establishment of such a court.

I beg again to call attention to the absolute necessity of extradition treaties being entered into with the neighbouring Republics, and to the urgent need of reciprocity on the following points:—

1. Compulsory attendance of witnesses.
2. Execution of civil judgments on endorsement of writ.
3. Recognition of probate and letters of administration.

Several legislative proclamations have been issued during the past year, two of which, reducing the amounts payable for the licenses of agents of a foreign firm and "insurance companies," have given great satisfaction to the commercial community.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the valuable services rendered to me by Mr. Boyes, the Assistant Resident Magistrate at Vryburg, in the numerous prosecutions which have lately occurred.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. VINTCENT,
Crown Prosecutor.

The Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL.

Surveyor-General's Office, Vryburg,
November 22, 1890.

The chief feature of the year has been the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg, which will be opened for traffic on the 1st December. With the means of rapid communication thus provided it may be hoped that the farmers of the Cape Colony and neighbouring States will see an opening for their industry in this territory, and that the resources of Bechuanaland will before long contribute their share to the general wealth of South Africa.

The influence of railway extension has been already felt in this department in the increased demand for land, principally in the shape of large stock runs and of town lots. It is expected that a still greater demand will be experienced when the construction of the line between Vryburg and Mafeking has been commenced.

Meanwhile the extent of land sold and the amount received under that head of revenue compare favourably, as might have been expected, with the returns of former years.

In addition to the land sold during the year a block of 12,000 square miles has been set apart for the British South Africa Company in terms of the agreement under which the railway is being made.

During the past year the farm surveys have been extended westward as far as the Pile o Andriesfontein, the eastern limit of Gordonia.

Many of the farms laid out have been allotted in terms of the award of the Land Commission of 1886, and the remainder are available for grant or sale.

The township of Vryburg has been surveyed, and a want much felt by persons wishing to build upon their lots has thus been satisfied.

On the commonage of Vryburg a railway yard 40 acres in extent has been marked out by the engineers, and the railway station and other buildings have been erected.

A small township intended to compete with Vryburg was marked out by the proprietor on his farm Bernan, through which runs the direct road from Vryburg to the Transvaal.

The position of the new township with respect to the railway station may offer some advantages, but, as yet, the building sites near the Government offices in the old township seem to be preferred.

The survey of the police farms in the division of Mafeking has been completed, and title issued.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Reserves for the use of natives have been laid out at Boteetilets, Maneering, and Koning.

The Motito and Lower Kuruman Reserves and a reserve for the Batlaros on the Langbergen under Toto have been partly surveyed.

It is satisfactory to be able to record that Her Majesty's Government have authorised the payment of an annuity during his life and good behaviour to the Chief Toto in compensation for the loss which he will sustain by the influx of European settlers.

(Signed) A. H. F. DUNCAN,
Vryburg, November 22nd, 1890. Surveyor-General.

ANNUAL REPORT UPON THE DEEDS REGISTRY OFFICE OF BRITISH BECHUANALAND FOR THE YEAR 1890.

The figures in the comparative statement hereunto annexed show a considerable increase in the revenue of this department, which is undoubtedly due to the rising tendency in the market value of landed property, and now that the railway has reached Vryburg, and the native territories to our immediate north are under occupation of the British South Africa Company, British Bechuanaland thereby becoming an important trading centre, we may confidently look forward for continuous progress and prosperity; and although the views expressed in former reports regarding the probable gold discoveries in this territory have not yet been fully realised, the fact remains that gold and other minerals do exist, and with the influx of population and capital, the mineral wealth of this country will now soon be proved. The intrinsic value and superior farming qualities of this country is apparent from the fact that farmers from the Cape Colony, Transvaal, and Orange Free State buy up land here at remarkably advanced prices in comparison with former years. With these facts before me, I have no hesitation to state that this country has entered upon a favourable financial change, with a future before it capable of rapid progress and development in all the branches of industry, trade, and mining operations.

With the improvement of the revenue in this department, it naturally follows that the work is also increasing, and, I need hardly state, requires clerical assistance. I would further beg to point out that the strong room attached to this office is inefficient as far as safety of the public deeds and registers are concerned. In all other countries the whole of the deeds offices are made fireproof, and, taking into consideration the irreparable loss that might be sustained from fire, will justify the little expenditure caused in preventing such loss.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of property transferred; number and amount of bonds registered during this year:—

	1889.	1890.
Number of transfers registered	124	281
„ „ bonds passed	13	52
„ „ bonds cancelled	25	48
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value of property transferred	23,981 19 6	58,735 12 4
„ „ bonds passed	2,427 7 9	27,749 1 0
„ „ bonds cancelled	12,784 2 0	20,730 10 1
The departmental revenue is as follows:—		
Amount received in revenue stamps on value of properties transferred	90 11 0	239 8 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on value of bonds passed	11 17 6	119 4 6
Amount received in revenue stamps on registration fee on 281 transfers	124 0 0	281 0 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on registration fee on 52 mortgage bonds	13 0 0	52 0 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on registration fee on ante nuptial contracts	1 9 0	10 1 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on sundry documents	14 16 6	42 17 6
Amount received in revenue stamps on powers of attorney	10 14 0	25 15 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on cancellation of mortgage bonds	3 15 0	8 7 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on cession of mortgage bonds	2 14 6	6 19 6
Amount received in revenue stamps on cancellation of interdicts	0 18 0	2 8 0
Amount received in revenue stamps on searches	5 14 0	13 18 0
Total	279 9 6	801 18 6

(Signed) M. C. GENIS,
Registrar of Deeds.

Deeds Registry Office, Vryburg,
4th October 1890.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF MR. J. E. MIDDLETON, POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS.

In consequence of increased business improved accommodation is being provided at Vryburg and Mafeking, and a postal agency has been opened at Bloemfontein in Gordonia.

The mails between Kimberley and Palachwe have been conveyed weekly under contract by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.

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Owing to large losses by horse sickness from January to April this service was not satisfactorily performed north of Mafeking.

The railway was utilised between Kimberley and Fourteen Streams from 4th August 1890, and from the 1st of December there will be a daily mail service by rail between Kimberley and Vryburg, with a bi-weekly service by road between Vryburg and Mafeking. Kuruman is still served from Taungs, and Bloemfontein from Upington by native runners.

In the Protectorate there are five postal agencies (Kanye, Molepolole, Palachwe, Tati, and Buluwayo), with a sub-agency at Macloutsie. The three first-named are served by weekly mail-cart from Mafeking, Macloutsie by weekly cart from Palachwe, and the others by weekly runners from the same place.

Macloutsie is the station through which passes all correspondence for Mashonaland, and will become the exchange station under the probable postal convention with the British South Africa Company.

The total weight of mail matter received into the territory from Kimberley during the year was 19½ tons, and the amount despatched to Kimberley was 9½ tons.

The number of letters, &c., parcels, money orders, and postal drafts dealt with shows a large increase during the year. The gross receipts for postal business for the territory amounted to 1,812*l.*, showing an increase of 360*l.*; and those for the Protectorate to 883*l.*, showing an increase of 545*l.*

The telegraphs have worked very satisfactorily during the year since the completion of the new No. 8 wire. The instruments will need to be replaced at an early date, owing to the heavy work.

The extension of the line from Mafeking to Palachwe (290 miles), constructed and worked by the British South Africa Company, was completed during the year. Offices have been opened at Ramoutsa, Palla, and Palachwe. The line is now being pushed forward to Macloutsie and Tuli.

The total revenue of the government line was 1,901*l.*, being a decrease of 18*l.* Government messages dealt with represented a value of 1,797*l.*, being an increase of 483*l.*

The work, both of the postal and of the telegraph staff, has been exceptionally heavy during the year, and has been very satisfactorily performed.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NATIVE RESERVES.

Setlagoli, 1st October 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, as follows:—

That from 1st October 1889 to 30th September 1890 I have collected the amount of one thousand six hundred and two pounds five shillings sterling (1,602*l.* 5*s.*) on account of hut-tax.

Collections were made at Moroko's farm, Ganyesa, and Klein Choiñ Reserves during early part of October; the latter end of October and in November collections were made in the eastern portion of the Kuruman District and in the Lower Kuruman Reserve. Morokweñ Reserve was visited by me in December, and Honing Vley, Madebeñ, and the Moshaueñ River in the following month.

I applied for, and was granted, one month's leave of absence in February 1890.

In March, whilst in Vryburg, lung sickness broke out amongst the oxen in my possession; two of the oxen were affected and recovered, the others were kept in quarantine for 40 days by order of the Village Management Board.

Early in April I was supplied with a new ox-waggon, and then left Vryburg for Morokweñ, and from thence travelled to Kuruman viâ Honing Vley and Tseniñ, thence to Langberg and Korannaberg District, returning to Vryburg in June.

In July I was informed that the duty of collecting the hut tax for the whole province would be in my hands, and that Mr. J. P. McCarthy was appointed to assist me.

I proceeded to Taungs, and after interviewing "Mankoroane," instructed Mr. McCarthy to register all the occupied huts in the Taungs Division, and after completing this work to meet me at Mafeking on the 1st September.

During August I collected the tax at Ganyesa and Mosita Reserves and in the western portion of the Molopo Reserve.

Mr. McCarthy reported himself to me at Mafeking on the 1st September, and after our interviewing "Montshioa," we commenced the registration of the huts in his reserve, and at the same time the collection of the tax.

Leaving Mafeking on the 15th September, we arrived at Phoi's Station, Setlagoli Reserve, and after registering the huts and collecting the tax arrived at Police Camp, Setlagoli, this morning.

There has been again a failure in the crops, I may say, throughout the territory, owing to the want of rain during the early part of the season—the rain fell too late to do any good. At Taungs and in the Langberg the crops were only fairly good, but in the Barolong territory they failed entirely.

There is a current of dissatisfaction throughout the Batlaro territory, owing to the rumours circulated to the effect that the greater portion of Toto's country has been given away by the Government, and no steps been taken to secure the rights of the natives in occupation.

In June last, when in Langberg, Toto told me that he was troubled by these rumours, and that Government had ignored him altogether.

I was at the time unable to give him any information, and am still officially ignorant of the Government's intentions regarding the natives under this Chief.

With regard to the native reserves generally, I do not consider that sufficient attention has been paid to the requirements of the natives.

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At the time of the Land Court numbers of natives had fled the country with their stock, and it was difficult to arrive at the extent of ground required for them; since that time numbers have returned to this country, and they and their stock have been annually increasing.

It will be found that in a few years the reserves will be cramped and overstocked.

Re the tax I can only say that I consider the natives have done their best to meet the demands of the law.

In conclusion, I may state that up to the present time my assistant, Mr. J. P. McCarthy, has given me every satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. ST. QUINTIN,
Inspector of Native Reserves,
and Collector of Hut Tax.

To the Secretary,
His Honour the Administrator,
British Bechuanaland.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF CAPTAIN GOODYEAR, GOVERNMENT STOREKEEPER.

Owing to the increase in the police and the general development of the territory, there has been during the year a large increase in the work of this department.

Nordenfeldt guns and Martini-Henry rifles have been obtained from the War Office, and many supplies of stores and clothing from the Ordnance Store Department at Capetown.

An inquiry was held during the year into the relative cost of the clothing and saddlery obtained for the police forces of Bechuanaland and Basutoland respectively. In order to test quality a complete set of Basutoland outfit has been put into use as an experiment.

Owing to the drought the price of forage rose enormously in April last, and the purchase of supplies was postponed through the consumption of the mealies stored at Elebe. During part of the year the contract system was abandoned, and supplies were purchased in the Kimberley market through a commission agent. This system appears to result in a saving.

REPORT OF THE MASTER OF THE COURT OF THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE, BRITISH BECHUANALAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1890.

During the past year 44 death notices have been filed. Most of the estates are small, and some are of persons who died in previous years. As this office is worked in conjunction with the Resident Magistrate's, in which there has been a very great pressure

of work lately, it has been impossible to pay as much attention as could be desired to the work of the Master's Office. To carry on the work of the department properly a separate clerk is required. Constant attention is wanted to see that executors file their accounts in the proper time, to check them when received, and carry out the details of the office; at the same time I am bound to say that the revenue derived would not cover the expenditure. The principal difficulty in getting estates settled is that so many executors leave the territory and go to reside in the Transvaal, where they are beyond the jurisdiction of the Court. In some cases there are assets both in this territory and the Transvaal, and it would greatly facilitate the settlement of estates if arrangements could be made for each State to recognise letters of administration granted by the other.

There have been no insolvencies in the territory during the past year.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Vryburg, 13th October 1890. Master.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER OF VRYBURG FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1890.

The past year has been an important one for this district, the railway from Kimberley having been commenced and very nearly completed.

The Standard Bank has opened a branch here. The Dutch Reformed Church has been completed, a public garden has been started and a number of trees planted, and a considerable amount of building is now going on in the town. The railway, which it is expected will be open early in December, has, of course, attracted a considerable number of persons of all classes. Several new stores have been opened; new hotels are being built. The place is generally prosperous, and the value of property in town and country has considerably increased. The opening up of the country to the North under the auspices of the Charter Company has increased the traffic, which has lately been very large, and will probably increase; so long, therefore, as Vryburg remains the terminus the present prosperity will, I imagine, certainly be maintained and probably increased. I fear, however, that the entry of British Bechuanaland into the Customs Union will have a tendency to divert trade.

It is hoped that a very considerable amount of forwarding trade to the Transvaal will be secured, and this will, of course, be a great advantage both to the town and district. The influx of population, however, is not without its drawbacks. It has been shown in the Cape Colony that a railway is a great advantage to a town in a business point of view so long as it is a terminus, but

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that when it is carried on, although it may benefit the district and even make the town a more advantageous place of residence, it does not increase business; the consequence of this experience is that people hesitate in investing money in building, the result being great increase in rents and immense difficulty in getting accommodation. The farming community have undoubtedly done well during the last five years. At the time the present Government was established most of them were poor and had little stock, now, in a short time, many of them are prosperous and, comparatively speaking, well to do; the principal means of the improvement in their position are cattle breeding and transport riding. As I mentioned in my last annual report, I consider this a first-class district for cattle farming, and there has been during the past year a good demand for transport, which I consider will be at least fully maintained during the ensuing year.

There has, however, been more disease amongst cattle this year than usual, some sicknesses previously almost unknown having made their appearance. Horse sickness was unusually severe last autumn, both in Bechuanaland and other parts of South Africa; this terrible scourge entirely precludes the possibility of making horse-breeding, which would otherwise be a profitable pursuit, pay, and it is a very serious difficulty in advancing northwards, as it is more virulent in the upper country.

It appears to me highly desirable that a thorough investigation should be made into the origin and cause of this disease with a view of ascertaining whether means cannot be found either of prevention or cure. The whole of South Africa is interested in this question, and if the different Governments were to combine the expense would not be heavy. It is generally considered that sheep and goats will do well here when the "veldt" has been eaten off.

The main difficulties the farmers have to contend with are:—

1. Want of labour.
2. Want of capital.

I do not add want of water, because I consider it is included in want of capital; there is sufficient rainfall here to give an adequate supply. With regard to the first it is an unfortunate fact that in a country where there are large numbers of aboriginal natives there is a great difficulty in getting servants; the natives have few wants, and what they have are easily supplied; the consequence is that but few of them will work as herds for the farmers. If a native wants some money and has not a waggon and oxen, he goes generally to the Diamond or Gold Fields, where the money he gets for a month or two's work supplies his needs; continuous labour they dislike and rarely practise, and it may be mentioned that the native labour employed on the railway works has been drawn almost entirely from the Cape Colony.

The want of capital prevents many farmers not only from making improvement, but from properly stocking their farms.

In the Cape Colony, Government advance money for improving water supply, &c., on very easy terms, and it would be of great benefit if the same thing could be done here. Fencing and tree planting should also, in my opinion, be encouraged and assisted. I look upon fencing as the greatest improvement possible to the country; it checks stock stealing, prevents the spread of diseases, and renders a farmer to a considerable extent independent of servants.

Gold prospecting has to a certain extent collapsed; promising indications have been found in some localities, but up to the present time payable gold has not been found to exist in this district. I have recently been informed that a coal-field has been discovered a few hours from here, but have no positive information on the subject. I think that for ascertaining the geological formation of the country for sinking for water, &c., it would be very advantageous if Government could get out a diamond drill for work in the territory.

A new township was laid out on a farm adjoining the commonage which it was alleged would be nearer the railway station than the present town, but beyond the sale of a number of erven at somewhat high prices, I am not aware that the scheme has been developed. Efforts are being made to establish a public school here, and an amount has been guaranteed by the inhabitants which will enable it to be started, provided the expected Government grant is secured.

The work in the Civil Commissioner's and Resident Magistrate's Department has, as might be expected, been greatly increased lately. In the Civil Commissioner's office there has been a substantial augmentation of revenue, and the influx of a large number of railway employees and "loafers" has, naturally, greatly increased the work in the Resident Magistrate's office.

This is sufficiently shown by the fact that in September 1889 there were six cases tried in the Resident Magistrate's Court, and in September 1890 94, and the fines collected in September 1889 amounted to 10*s.*, and in September 1890 to 66*l.* 1*s.*

The receipts for licenses also have increased, and the general work has been very heavy. There has not, however, I am glad to say, been any considerable amount of serious crimes, most of the cases being the ordinary petty police cases.

There has, however, been a great increase in the cases arising from supplying natives with liquor; this arises from the fact that there are a large number of Cape Colony natives working on the railway and elsewhere who will do anything to get brandy, and that there are also many low white men and half-castes (who do not come within the prohibited degree) who are willing to run the risk of punishment to make a few shillings. I believe that as far as the aboriginal natives [are concerned?] the law is still effective, and I have no doubt that the evil will be greatly diminished when the railway works are completed. I may mention that it is a crime difficult to detect as the natives themselves will not give information.

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I have not been able to get any reliable native constables, owing, no doubt, principally to the small pay they receive, and it is only when a man is caught in the act by a white constable that there is a chance of conviction. The police staff has, however, recently been augmented by the addition of four white policemen, since which time there have been several convictions, and I trust that the crime will be put down.

The Board of Management has, I think, done as much as possible considering the limited means at their disposal, and has lately levied a higher rate than hitherto, which will provide a good deal more money than has been previously available for the many necessary works required in the town.

The Divisional Council has been hampered by want of funds and has been unable to expend money on repair of roads which are much needed; there has been great difficulty in collecting the rates, but I hope there will be a considerable improvement shortly.

The sanitary condition of the town and district has been satisfactory; there was an outbreak of diphtheria in the town lately, but the board took prompt action in the matter, and being liberally assisted by Government have, I trust, stamped out the disease. The want of an hospital has been much felt, and I am pleased to learn that Government intend starting one.

The services of a clergyman of the Church of England have been obtained, and services are regularly held and are well attended. A parsonage is in course of erection, and subscriptions obtained for the building of a church which, it is hoped, will be started shortly.

Condition of Public Buildings.

The gaol is a well-built structure, affording a considerable amount of accommodation; some few repairs and alterations have recently been made, and it is in good order.

It is, however, so far away from the court-house and township that during the past year the old gaol has been repaired and is now used as a lock-up; it is not a very satisfactory building or in a convenient situation, but is a great advantage, having a place to lock prisoners in arrested at night-time.

The Magistrate's and Civil Commissioner's offices are very much out of repair, and the court-room is quite unsuitable for present requirements.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in expressing my opinion that the state of the district both as regards the Government and the people is satisfactory; the people are advancing in prosperity and loyal to existing institutions, and there will, no doubt, be a considerable increase in revenue during the coming year.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
C. C.

Report of the Civil Commissioner, Mafeking.

British Bechuana Land.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Mafeking,
October 13, 1890.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended the 30th ultimo.

The year has again been marked by an absence of any serious sickness in the district, and the general health may be said to have been fairly good; this may be considered satisfactory, considering the inferiority of the water supply; there have been a few cases of low fever, which, however, have been successfully treated by the district surgeon, whose appointment as such has been one which has greatly pleased the inhabitants. The question of the water in the town has been and still is a very serious one with which the newly-appointed Village Management Board are endeavouring to cope by sinking several wells, but, should the population continue to increase at the same rate as it has done since the beginning of the year, other steps must be taken to augment the supply; two water schemes have been suggested, one to bring it from the Molopo, 15 miles distant, and the other from Rooi Grond, 9 miles away; the cost of either of these projects would, however, be so great that for the present, at any rate, there is little likelihood of their being carried out.

Owing to the opening up of the interior by the Charter and other Companies, traffic has increased to a very great extent The effect of this has been to cause a number of new stores, hotels, &c. to be erected, and an influx of a great number of people into the town; but I wish to take this opportunity of pointing out that a very exaggerated idea of the present size of Mafeking appears to prevail in the Transvaal and Cape Colony, and consequently people are continually arriving here in numbers fully expecting to get immediate employment, and are disappointed; this appears more especially in the case of clerks, for whom there are no openings; good, steady mechanics might get work, but at present there is no great demand, and I would recommend no one to visit here with a view to employment unless he made arrangements beforehand. As an instance of the increase of local traffic mentioned above, I may quote figures taken from the books kept by the rebate officer, which show that during the year under report 45,000 packages passed through his hands as against 15,000 the previous year.

A large amount of the transport has been supplied by the natives, to whom it has been of great benefit; owing to the largely increased demand, rates of carriage have ruled in excess of the average of former years; hence considerable money has been circulated amongst the native population, enabling them to purchase food supplies of which they were much in need, owing to the almost complete failure of crops through the drought; this want has also been the means of making native labour more plentiful than it was, though I must confess it is not of the most satisfactory nature.

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I am glad to be able to report that from a judicial point of view I have little or no trouble with the natives, there being very little crime considering the population; the only matter which causes trouble with them is the pound law, which they do not seem to understand, though its terms have frequently been explained, but I trust with a little patience to overcome this difficulty.

Prospecting for minerals in this district has not been attended with success so far; gold is to be found in certain parts to the south-west of Mafeking, but up to the present it has not been proved to be in payable quantities. I think that an expenditure of a considerable amount of capital would be necessary to test the reefs satisfactorily, and possibly, when the railway is completed, thereby facilitating communication, more attention will be devoted to the matter.

In conclusion, I may say that the past year has been one showing every sign of progress, and the future shows promise of advancement in a marked degree.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. HATCHARD,
Civil Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER, TAUNGS.

SIR, Taungs, October 18, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, as to the work performed in this district, and the condition of the district, during the twelve months ending the 30th September 1890, as follows:—

Administration of Justice.

There have been 131 apprehensions, of which 86 have been convicted, 44 have been discharged, and 1 committed, but still waiting for trial. There was one charge of culpable homicide, acquitted; otherwise there were no serious charges; but the number is in excess of the previous year, owing to the influx of strangers working on the railway construction. There were a few cattle thefts from residents in the district, but most of the charges connected with the railway employees were for petty thefts or assaults among themselves. Except the cattle stealing, I had no complaints from natives of the reserve of having been interfered with by the railway employees, who have certainly behaved in this district far better than I anticipated. I attribute this considerably to the energy of Sergeant Taylor and the men under him of the Bechuanaland Border Police, and the quiet and steady way they conducted their duty with strangers.

I attach a return showing the nature of the charges, number of convictions and discharges. There have only been 13 civil cases.

The Chiefs have settled the disputes among their own tribes satisfactorily; only about one tenth of the charges or convictions have been against Batlapins.

Revenue.

I attach a statement* of the receipts of revenue for the twelve months ending the 30th September 1890 for this district, which, including 157*l.* 12*s.* collected at Vryburg on account of this district for quit-rents and transfers, amounts to 2,143*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*, being 31*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* less than I estimated. The deficiency is in the hut tax, which is 202*l.* less than I expected, which has been chiefly in the Phokwane and Monte parts of the reserve, where Galishwe and Kantlapane are Chiefs. Mankoroane and his brother Resaco gave me faithful assistance in their portion of the reserve. I am certain by the new arrangements for collection of the hut tax it will realise more than I estimated last year, 1,209*l.* I therefore estimate it for the ensuing year at 1,250*l.*, which I believe it will exceed.

Sanitary.

The health of the district the last year has been good; there has been no epidemic.

Roads.

The railway about to be opened will relieve the main roads from the Colony of the interior traffic; therefore they will answer for the present for the local travelling, but with a station on the railway near here, should the South African Republic establish a port of entry from this district, it would be necessary to establish and put in order a road from the station to the border. The easiest to make and most convenient for forwarding goods would be by Mode Mory. The direct road from here to Kuruman, which is taken by the post, is very bad for about 40 miles, that is to about Flockfontein. The country it passes through is so rocky I could not estimate the expense, which, to be of any service, would be heavy, and it would require a practical road-maker to examine the road to decide the work that would be required and to estimate the expense of executing it.

State of Natives.

The state of the natives is most prosperous, and I believe with the exception of the Chiefs and their immediate families, who do not like finding their power and influence lessening every year, the rest of the people are contented and happy; for through our protection, not only from their enemies, but from themselves by the restrictive laws on liquor, they cannot poison themselves with brandy or waste their flocks and herds to purchase it. Thus their

* Not printed.

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flocks and herds are yearly increasing, so much so that they are fairly outgrowing the reserves allotted to them; consequently the veldt in the reserve is overstocked, the cattle are generally very poor, and the young stock is becoming stunted in their growth. Last year the mealie crop was a failure owing to the late rains, but they had a very good crop of Kafir corn, which is their chief food; but there is not such a sale for it as for mealies. It is marvellous how changed the natives are for the better since the establishment of our Government. When I came here six years and a half ago they were thoroughly demoralised from excessive drinking, stealing, and associating with the low class of white men living among them; they would sell anything they had for liquor; no cattle in the neighbourhood were safe from stealing; they were starving, and were a tribe of paupers; now a pauper is not to be seen among them.

Divisional Council and Farms.

There has been no divisional council formed. There are few of the farms in the district occupied, and those are mostly by men who cannot afford time to attend meetings and who do not wish to incur the expense of rates. There has been little or no improvement made on the farms; the bulk of them are owned by speculators, who are holding them merely for the purposes of sale, and those that have changed hands during the year are to people who have purchased for a rise in prices, not for occupation. This may temporarily increase the revenue by transfers, but no doubt the occupation of the farms would more greatly benefit the country for the future. Perhaps, if it were possible to reduce the quit-rents of farms *bonâ fide* occupied by registered owners it might induce occupation.

Transvaal Border.

There have been a few complaints on both sides; our natives of what they considered harsh treatment when, by going into the Transvaal they have come under the severer laws of that country, and in a few instances of not having been paid wages they had earned by farmers, but on their taking a letter from me to Mr. Niekerk, he has invariably procured them whatever they were entitled to. The Transvaal farmers have complained of so many natives going into the Transvaal on trivial excuses, as they believe, to steal cattle; but I attribute our natives going into the Transvaal on trivial excuses is to purchase liquor, which they can do at a store and some small shops in the Transvaal near the border. There are also a lot of Colonial Kafirs who pass through the narrow portion of Bechuanaland between the Colony and the Transvaal with false passes, and, if they can steal any horses or cattle, they take them smartly through our country. I am in hopes the re-establishing of a police station at Sweeting's Pass

will check it, as having a station there previously did; for if a theft is reported quickly to our police they can follow up any spoor, and should it go into the Colony they can at once communicate with the Cape Police stationed near our border. By this means, when the previous detachment was at Sweeting's Pass, several lots of stolen cattle were recovered in the Colony where the thieves were tried.

Buildings.

The main building of the gaol, which is three good cells, is built of stone and is in very good repair. The gaoler's quarters, built of raw bricks, is very much cracked and is liable to come down during any very heavy and continuous rains. Tenders have been called for to add some buildings to the gaol, namely, a guard room, store-room, kitchen, and latrine, which are much required. The court-house, built of raw brick, is in fair repair, but requires a few things looked to, to stop some leaks and repair the doors. I shall be very thankful if a boarded floor and ceiling could be put into the Magistrate's and clerk's offices, which are very uncomfortable in their present state. There are some old buildings at the back of the court-house, as purchased from Mr. Connelly, which are in indifferent repair; a portion—namely, a kitchen, stable and small store-room—has fallen down; the remainder, which I occupy, I asked a builder what it would cost to put into repair. After an examination he answered more than the buildings, which are badly built and of bad material, are worth, and then it would be unsatisfactory. Such as they are they may stand for some time, although liable to fall down, like the other portion, any wet season.

October 25.

Having this morning received orders from the Receiver-General to include the survey reimbursements (expenses and fees) in my revenue return, which makes a difference of 383*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* to my return already made out, which is the actual income of revenue for the district, and is referred to in my remarks on revenue, I also forward a copy of my return to the Receiver-General in addition, which shows the survey reimbursement added to actual revenue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

The Secretary, Vryburg.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Return of Criminal Cases adjudicated on by the Resident Magistrate for the District of Taungs during the Year ending September 30th, 1890.

Nature of Offence.	Charged.	Committed.	Committed for Trial.	Discharged.
Assault	15	9	—	6
„ with intent to do grievous bodily harm	1	—	1	—
Convictions.—Masters and Servants Act	11	5	—	6
Pound Ordinance	4	2	—	2
Liquor Licensing Act	3	2	—	1
Paragraph 14, Schedule of Offences, Act 9 of 1878	5	4	—	1
Paragraph 6 „ „ „	2	2	—	—
Section 10 „ „ „	1	1	—	—
Section 9, Part 2, Act 27 of 1882	4	4	—	—
Section 10 „ „	5	5	—	—
Section 1, Act 18 of 1859	2	2	—	—
Section 61, Proc. No. 2, B. B., of 1885	1	1	—	—
Sections 48 and 50 „ „	14	14	—	—
Section 50 „ „	1	1	—	—
Section 1, Act 19 of 1884	1	—	—	1
Section 25, Proc. No. 85, B. B., of 1890	1	1	—	—
Contempt of court	1	1	—	—
Culpable homicide	1	—	—	1
Desertion from B.S.A.C.P.	1	—	—	1
Obtaining goods under false pretences	2	—	—	2
Obstructing natives from ploughing	2	2	—	—
Shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm	1	1	—	—
Theft	16	11	—	5
„ cattle	26	13	—	13
„ horses	4	3	—	1
„ goats	3	2	—	1
Vagrancy	3	—	—	3
Total	131	86	1	44

STANLEY LOWE,
Resident Magistrate.

REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE OF KURUMAN.

Since my last annual report very little change has taken place in this district.

The natives are quiet and peaceful, although they appear somewhat unsettled lately on account of the demarcation of their locations; they cannot understand what the surveying means, and do not like to see beacons put up. However, I trust they will get used to it when they find out it does them no harm.

Lung sickness is, I regret to say, very prevalent this year, in fact, it seems the surrounding districts are all in the same state. The natives are continually warned to isolate the infected cattle, but until they get punished they will not listen, although it has been strongly impressed on them that it is for their own good to do so.

Crime.

I am pleased to say, is hardly known in this district. During the whole year I had only 14 criminal cases to deal with, and these were all for very minor offences.

Liquor Licenses.

No liquor license has as yet been granted in this district.

Revenue.

The revenue collected compares very favourably with that of the previous years.

Residence, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

The residence for the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate is now completed, and is, I am pleased to say, in every respect a suitable building.

Public Offices and Gaol.

The public offices and gaol will require some necessary repairs this year. Buildings of raw brick ought to be repaired every year to keep them in proper order. Furniture for the court-room is urgently required; it at present consists of one table.

Complaints have been made by storekeepers and natives of the great hardship of having to come a distance of 40 to 50 miles for a gunpowder permit. I shall be glad if some relief could be granted in this direction.

Last year several European and a good many native children died from diphtheria. The Government was good enough to supply me with 25 lbs. of sulphur, which I had distributed amongst the natives to fumigate their huts with. They eagerly availed themselves of this, and I am glad to say since then, for the last six months, not a single case has been heard of.

The two detachments of police, the one stationed at Kuruman and the other at the Langberg, have, I am pleased to say, rendered good service.

(Signed) C. B. SCHOLTZ,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

British Bechuana-land.

Annual Report of the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, Gordonia.

1. The past year has been one of prosperity for this district, and although Gordonia is not a district where one may expect to amass a large fortune, yet under our present Government, and with an unusual heavy rainfall and a ready market for slaughter cattle and *vee* (small stock, sheep and goats), the inhabitants have every reason to be satisfied and thankful. The veld is still very good, and we are looking forward with confidence to another season as favourable as the last.

2. I am glad to state that during the past year our farmers have not had to suffer much from stock thefts ; in fact, stock thefts are of very rare occurrence, and from the police reports it appears that the only thefts reported were committed by Bushmen who had been indulging in the much-loved honey beer, which, if mixed with Cape brandy, is frightfully intoxicating.

On the other hand, again, other crimes seem to be increasing. Out of three persons prosecuted for the crime of rape two were convicted.

3. In the absence of a district surgeon, I can supply no reliable information with regard to the general state of health in this district, but, except for the appearance in a mild form of diphtheria in several places and the usual per-centage of fever patients, we have not been visited by any serious contagious disease. I have, however, reason to believe that if we had a district surgeon his report upon the venereal disease would be very far from favourable.

4. The last wheat harvest at the places under irrigation was not so good as was expected, a late frost in October 1889 having caused a partial failure of the crop. The approaching season, however, promises to be plentiful. The great enemies of the wheat and fruit growers are the swarms of finches and sparrows, which, unless driven away with all imaginable means, will certainly destroy quite half the crop, and the people are almost powerless against their ever-increasing foes.

For the cattle and vee farmer the past was an exceptionally favourable season. The veld was everything to be desired, the market good and prices firm. The failures of the Union and Cape of Good Hope Banks have been keenly felt also in our district. A little has been done in prospecting for minerals without leading to any definite results.

5. Our relations with our neighbours are friendly, although attempts have been made by outsiders to disturb our peace. Threatened hostilities on our border were averted by the tact of the Chief of the Bondelzwarts, William Christian, for the present, and I trust that also for the future we will be able to maintain the same good terms, without which our district cannot hope to prosper.

(Signed) C. Bam,
Resident Magistrate.

Upington, November 4, 1890.

GOVERNOR to ADMINISTRATOR.

Government House, Cape Town,
November 29, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your able and interesting Despatch of the 22nd instant covering the annual report of British Bechuanaland for the year ended 30th September 1890.

I notice in the police report that there were 194 cases of fever at Elebe and Macloutsie during the year. As the average strength of the force never reached 200 men at those places, I consider this proportion of fever cases to be excessive, and every effort should be made to improve the health of the men. I have already given orders that seeds of the eucalyptus be supplied to the camp, and I request that you will inform me as to the progress made in planting eucalyptus trees in the neighbourhood.

I think, too, that the men should be encouraged to take up gardening and other amusements likely to prevent the lassitude and depression which predispose to disease.

At the police stations at Ramoutsa and Palla postal agencies should be established, and the revenue might be greatly increased by the sale of stamps at those places, whilst the men at these out-stations could be regularly supplied with letters and papers.

The twenty cases of dysentery reported may be traceable to bad water, and I desire that a special report from the medical officers may be furnished on this subject.

If, as is possible, the water tends to become impure during the dry season, it may be desirable to sink wells to a sufficient depth to provide a constant supply of water during that period of the year, and I shall be glad that either a sufficient number of tanks be provided to collect the ain-water off the iron roofs of the store-houses, which are, I trust, by this time placed within the fort, or that a well should be sunk within the fortifications.

I desire also to receive a report as to the efficiency of the supply of medicines and hospital necessaries.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 8.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 92, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1891.

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1891.

[C.—6269.–7.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
75	Sierra Leone	1888
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888-9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890

No. 8.

BERMUDA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 92, Old Series.]

Lieut.-General NEWDEGATE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Bermuda, April 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith in duplicate the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with the report of Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. N. NEWDEGATE,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
Bermuda, March 18, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1890:—

Finance.

2. The revenue derived from the ordinary sources during the year was 32,394*l.*, and the expenditure 30,270*l.*; the excess of revenue over expenditure was therefore 2,124*l.* Compared with 1889 the revenue shows an increase of 2,456*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 180*l.* In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan and expended during the year are not included.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1890 with that of 1889:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1889 - - - -	23,017	6,921	29,938
1890 - - - -	27,048	5,346	32,394
Increase - - -	4,031	—	2,456
Decrease - - -	—	1,575	—

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Expenditure.

	Salaries.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£
1889 - - - -	9,918	20,172	30,090
1890 - - -	10,188	20,082	30,270
Increase - -	270	—	180
Decrease - - -	—	90	—

The receipts from the Customs last year, when compared with 1889, show an increase under every heading with the exception of the "Landing tax," in which there is a small decrease; the increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounting to 1,476*l.*, in malt liquor 387*l.*, in rum 938*l.*, in other spirits 871*l.*, in tobacco and snuff 298*l.*, and in cigars 61*l.*

The increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties is due to an increase of price of some imports and an increased quantity imported. The import duties on rum and other spirits having been increased from 4*s.* to 5*s.* per gallon, on tobacco from 2*d.* to 6*d.* per lb., and on cigars from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per 1,000 from the 1st of July last, accounts to a great extent for the increased receipts under these headings.

The ordinary miscellaneous receipts in 1890 were slightly in excess of those for 1889, but a special payment made in 1889 of 1,800*l.* by the trustees of the Savings Bank increased the revenue shown under "other receipts" for that year, and accounts for the decrease in 1890 under that heading.

Compared with 1889 the following differences are shown in the disbursements:—

		£
Salaries - -	an increase of -	270
Agricultural - -	„ -	275
Educational - -	„ -	100
Gaols - - -	„ -	121
Miscellaneous payments -	„ -	364
Public health - -	„ -	205
Works and buildings -	„ -	1,509
Whilst in—		
Administration of justice there was a decrease of -	- -	723
Payment of public debt -	a decrease of -	800
Interest - - -	„ -	249
Legislative - -	„ -	220
Lighthouses - -	„ -	120
Post Office - -	„ -	152
Roads -	„ -	245

4. The returns of Imperial expenditure are as follows :—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,200
Military establishments - - -	100,376

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows an increase of 6,925*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishment is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Whilst 500*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt has increased from 7,220*l.* to 7,620*l.* The increase is due to the issue of Treasury debentures to the value of 900*l.* for the purposes of a new Government House now in course of erection.

The public debt at the end of 1890 was made up as follows :—

	£
Causeway debentures - - -	1,620
New Government House debentures -	6,000

The average rate of interest on these loans is 4½ per cent.

Legislation.

6. There was a special session of the Colonial Parliament, which commenced on the 27th March and lasted to the 30th April. Two Acts were passed during this session, namely, "An Act to provide for the discharge of the duties of the Chief Justice during his absence," and "An Act to facilitate in these islands the operations of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited."

During the regular session, which commenced on the 30th of May, and which was carried on over the end of the year, 37 Acts were passed.

Of these 10 were mere continuing Acts, and three continuing Acts with unimportant amendments.

Of the remainder the following were the more important :—

(No. 6.) "An Act to incorporate the Bank of Bermuda, Limited."

(No. 7.) "An Act to amend the Hamilton Gaol Acts, 1879–1881."

(No. 25.) "An Act to make provision for the completion of the new Government House."

(No. 29.) "An Act to provide for the inspection of potatoes, onions, and tomatoes before exportation from these islands."

(No. 37.) "An Act to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace with respect to indictable offences."

BERMUDA.

By Act No. 6 a local bank is incorporated, with a capital fixed at 8,000*l.*, to be subscribed for within six months after the passing of the Act. By Act No. 7 out of the proceeds of certain funds invested in England the Board of Public Works is authorised to build in accordance with revised plans a new gaol in Hamilton at a cost not exceeding 6,150*l.*

By Act No. 25 a further grant of 4,300*l.* is made to provide for the completion of the new Government House, which building has already cost the Colony 9,000*l.* Money voted on this account is raised by debentures, which are to be paid off at the rate of 500*l.* per annum. Act No. 29 was passed with the object of preventing as far as possible the practice of packing for exportation small or inferior vegetables in such a manner as to deceive purchasers.

The object of Act No. 37 is sufficiently explained by its title.

During the regular session 16 resolves were passed, appropriating 6,043*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Councils and Assembly.

7. Mr. R. D. Darrell, Solicitor-General, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 7th July.

The Colonial Parliament, which was first summoned in May 1883, having been in existence for nearly the full period (seven years) allowed by law, was dissolved in February last, and a general election for members of the House of Assembly was held the same month.

Of the 36 members then returned, 28 had been members of the old House.

The number of persons qualified to vote at this election was 1,167, or an average of 32 electors for every member. The number of persons who actually voted was 1,007.

The property qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at 240*l.*; for an elector, freehold property, which must be in the parish to be represented, rated at 60*l.*

Civil Establishment.

8. His Excellency the Governor was absent on leave from the 2nd of October to the 7th of December. During his absence Colonel the Honourable Herbert F. Eaton, Grenadier Guards, the senior military officer then in the command, administered the Government.

Consequent on the death of Mr. Charles Henry Smith, Assistant Receiver-General, in March, Mr. Joseph H. S. Frith, Treasury Clerk, was appointed in that month Acting Assistant Receiver-General, Mr. Cecil H. Tucker, Revenue Officer,

Hamilton, taking over the duties of Treasury Clerk, and Mr. Benjamin G. Barnett the duties of Revenue Officer, Hamilton.

Mr. C. M. McCallan, clerk in the Post Office, St. George's, was transferred in December to the Revenue Department and appointed Revenue officer at St. George in the room of Mr. T. W. Lightbourn, who resigned that office on the grounds of advancing years and failing health.

Mr. Lightbourn had been in the public service for upwards of 13 years, and was granted by the Legislature a gratuity of 160*l.* on his retirement.

Mr. Van Osdoll S. Brown was appointed to the vacant office of clerk in the Post Office, St. George's.

The Chief Justice of the Colony having been granted leave of absence extending over the April Session of the Court of General Assize, Mr. R. D. Darrell was appointed to act as Chief Justice during that session of the Court.

Surgeon-Major Reily, Army Medical Staff, was appointed Health Officer at St. George's in the room of Surgeon-Major W. B. Miller transferred to Prospect on military duty.

Imports.

9. The total value of the imports in 1890 was 308,016*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1889 of 35,413*l.* and with 1888 of 8,026*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1889 and 1890 is shown in the following table :—

——	1889.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	70,490	92,739
British Colonies - - -	21,806	25,464
United States of America - -	179,920	188,975
Other countries - - -	387	838
Totals - - -	272,603	303,016

Exports.

10. The value of the exports amounted to 137,526*l.*, an increase compared with 1889 of 72,550*l.*, or more than double the value of the exports for that year, and compared with 1888 an increase of 37,876*l.*

BERMUDA.

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in the years 1889 and 1890:—

Year	1889.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	2,314	2,038
British Colonies - - - -	2,273	4,286
United States of America - - -	59,770	130,928
Other countries - - - -	619	274
Total - - - -	64,976	137,526

The marked increase in the value of the exports is to be attributed nearly entirely to the remunerative prices obtained last year for the agricultural products of these islands in the New York market.

In 1889 about 290,000 crates of onions were sent to New York, valued at a little over 31,750*l.*; last year, though about 10,000 crates less were sent, the value of the crop was over 82,550*l.*

The value of the potato crop sent to New York in 1890 was 33,227*l.*, an increase compared with the preceding year of 13,334*l.* The value of the lily bulbs, tomatoes, and beets exported to the same place in 1890 was 7,957*l.*, 2,413*l.*, and 1,054*l.* respectively, compared with 3,527*l.*, 770*l.*, and 584*l.* in 1889.

Population and Public Health.

11. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population of these islands at the end of 1890 at 15,884, comprising 6,293 white and 9,591 coloured persons.

The birth rate was 32·1 and the death rate 21·02 per 1,000. In 1889 the death rate was 18·86 per 1,000. The increased death rate in 1890 appears to be attributable to the large number of deaths from whooping-cough and pneumonia which occurred during the year, the former disease being returned as the cause of 20 deaths and the latter of 15, compared with three deaths from each of the above-mentioned diseases respectively in 1889.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1890 was 2,921, and the deaths were 24, the rate of mortality thus being 8·21 per 1,000. Of these deaths 12 were due to enteric fever.

The Senior Medical Officer of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of garrison, 1,546. Admissions to hospital, 988; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength, 639·1.

Deaths 18, or a proportion of 11·64 per 1,000; four of these deaths occurred out of hospital, 10 deaths were due to enteric fever. Average daily sick 44·65; average duration of each case of sickness, 16·50 days. Average strength of officers, 63; cases of sickness, 22; no deaths.

The principal naval medical officer reports that three diseases prevailed in an epidemic form on Ireland Island, during the past year, viz., whooping-cough, measles, and influenza. The two former were of a very mild nature and confined to the residents on Ireland Island, while the influenza occurred chiefly among the crews of Her Majesty's ships. This latter disease was brought to Bermuda by the Swedish corvette "Saga," which arrived on the 5th of March with upwards of 70 cases of influenza on board. She came inside the Camber on the 20th March, having a clean bill of health at the time.

On the 27th March the first case appeared on board the flagship; it soon became epidemic and spread to the other ships in the Camber; 332 cases were entered on the sick list besides a large number of cases too slight to be put on the sick list; only 11 cases occurred among the residents on Ireland Island, the remaining 321 being men and officers belonging to Her Majesty's ships.

The daily average strength of the naval forces at Bermuda corrected for time was 1,375. This includes 411 dockyardsmen and 292 men borne on the books of H.M.S. "Terror," a decrease of 140 as compared with 1889.

860 patients were under treatment during the year, an increase of 54 as compared with the previous year; this number includes all cases of disease or injury received from Her Majesty's ships, many of whom contracted their diseases on other parts of the station and were sent to the Royal Naval Hospital on the arrival of the fleet at Bermuda.

The increase in the number of patients was entirely due to the epidemic of measles and influenza, otherwise there would have been a considerable decrease.

Criminal Statistics.

12. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 423, a decrease compared with 1889 of 77 and with 1888 of 102.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 387, of whom 242 were summarily convicted, 64 discharged, 56 acquitted, and 25 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Twenty cases were tried in the superior courts during the year. The convictions numbered 13; of these two were for rape, six for other offences against the person, one for arson, and five came under the heading "Miscellaneous."

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. 84 persons (78 men, five women and one child) were committed to gaol during the year; of these 36 were committed for safe custody and 48 for the purpose of penal imprisonment.

The daily average number in prison was 25, the daily average on sick list three.

Lunatic Asylum.

14. Nine patients were admitted into the asylum; of these seven were males and two females. Six were discharged, five males and one female. There were four deaths, three males and one female.

Education.

15. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—20 aided schools; 1,136 scholars. School fees, 562*l.*; Government contributions, 1,005*l.* There are no Government schools in Bermuda in the sense in which that term is understood in England, the schools refered to above being all private schools aided by grants from the Board of Education. The per-centage of average attendance to total for last year was 72. The attendance at school of many of the children is to a great extent regulated by the demands of field work, as during the crop season the children in the country parishes can find ready employment.

No returns are made of the other private schools, about 20 in number, which are not aided by grants.

Meteorological.

16. The meteorological observations taken at 10 a.m., 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily at the Government buildings, Hamilton, which are situated a few feet above the sea level, give the following results:—Mean temperature for year 73·5°; hottest month, August, with a mean of 82·2°; coolest, March, with a mean of 66·8°; total rainfall 50·86 inches; heaviest monthly fall in June, with 8·12 inches; least in August with 1·79 inches.

A table of meteorological observations, taken during the first nine months of the year at 9 a.m., and 3 p.m. daily, and at 8.41 a.m. and 8.41 p.m. during the last three months, at the observatory at Prospect Camp (151 feet above the sea level) published in the Registrar-General's report for 1890, shows the following results:—Mean pressure of the atmosphere for the year, 30.145 inches; mean maximum shade temperature for the year, 77·0°; mean minimum shade temperature for the year, 64·3°; mean degree of humidity for the year 72·7 per cent.; mean daily

horizontal movement, of the atmosphere 204·6 miles; total amount of rainfall, 56·90 inches. Rain fell on 178 days in the year; hail fell on 28th January and 13th April.

General.

17. The year 1890 was one of great prosperity in Bermuda, for not only were very remunerative prices obtained for the agricultural products of the islands in the United States, due to the fact that the early crops of onions and potatoes in the Southern States were injured by frost, but the number of visitors to these islands was unprecedentedly large.

The submarine cable between Halifax and Bermuda having been successfully laid at the end of June, the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, to whom the cable belongs, were able to open an office in Hamilton for the transaction of busines early in July. The Company receives a subsidy from the Imperial Government of 8,100*l.* per annum for 20 years, and the charges at present made are 4*s.* per word to England and 3*s.* 3*d.* to the American continent. Government messages are charged half rates.

There can be little doubt that the establishment of cable communication will prove in the future beneficial to the Colony.

Statistical Returns.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1889 - - -	7,680	8,063	15,743
1890 - - -	7,767	8,117	15,884

	1889.	1890.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	29,936	32,394
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	30,089	30,270
Customs revenue - - - - -	23,017	27,048
Public debt - - - - -	7,220	7,620

	1889.	1890.
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	221,755	307,506
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	179,272	265,944
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	42,483	41,562
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	48,328	40,539
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	173,427	266,967
	£	£
Value of total imports - - - -	272,603	308,016
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -	70,490	92,739
Value of total exports - - - -	64,976	137,526
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom -	2,314	2,038

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Edward Newdigate Newdegate, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 13.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 90, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.-12.]

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The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
80	Lagos	1888
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
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7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"

No. 13.

GIBRALTAR.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 90, Old Series.]

Sir LOTHIAN NICHOLSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, May 26, 1891.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the annual "Blue Book" of this Colony for the year 1890, together with the report thereon of Mr. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LOTHIAN NICHOLSON,
General and Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
May 15, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1890, and to express my regret that it has not been in your Excellency's hands at an earlier date, in consequence of the heavy strain of work entailed by very exceptional circumstances on the civil departments of this Colony during the first four months of the present year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
General Sir Lothian Nicholson, K.C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of GIBRALTAR for the year 1890.

FINANCE.

Revenue.

The revenue returns show the gross amount collected to be pesetas 1,561,542, against pesetas 1,591,853 realised in 1889, or a decrease of pesetas 30,311.

o 67450. Wt. 18975.

GIBRALTAR.

This decrease is entirely due to a falling off in the receipts of the port, the outcome of the quarantine regulations during the summer, which drove much trade away, and also of the competition of Algiers and Malta in the coaling business, a competition which is likely to cause a further falling off in this source of revenue on account of the cheaper labour to be found in these ports and of the reductions which are there being made to induce owners of vessels to bring their trade thither.

The total decrease under this head was pesetas 35,470.

The comparative statements of revenue in 1889 and 1890 show as under:—

Head of Service.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Duty on wine - - - -	—	4,641
„ spirits - - - -	8,462	—
„ malt liquors - - -	114	—
Port rates and duties - - -	—	35,470
Land revenue - - - -	5,899	—
Rents exclusive of land - - -	--	6,626
Postage - - - - -	9,399	—
Telegraphs - - - - -	—	13,401
Licenses - - - - -	3,435	—
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - - -	—	711
Slaughter-house fees - - - -	1,365	-
Interest on invested funds - - -	3,999	—

Of these items the only other calling for special mention is the decrease on telegraph receipts, which is due to the fact that the previous year's return shows the amount of 1888 as well as 1889, owing to special arrangements then under consideration, which prevented any return for the earlier of these two years; so that what appears as a decrease in 1890 is actually a slight increase over the actual receipts for the 12 months ended 31st December 1889.

No comparison is possible in the savings bank returns and profits, inasmuch as the funds invested in the United Kingdom have to be brought to account in the Colony at their par value and at the par rate of exchange, which thus show a fictitious deficit. The actual financial position of the bank, however, is eminently sound.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for 1890 was pesetas 1,476,078 against pesetas 1,439,872 in 1889, or an increase of pesetas 36,206; but when it is noted that the hospital item of expenditure shows a nominal increase of pesetas 90,991, inasmuch as the total expenditure on that institution is now charged against the Treasury, whilst the total receipts go into public revenue and are not set off against the expenditure, and also that the same arrangement is in force with regard to the cemetery, the financial position of the Colony cannot be viewed as unsound, nor can it be thought, as I would respectfully submit, that any avoidable increase of disbursements has taken place.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure.

	Pesetas.
1889 - - - -	1,439,872
1890 - - - -	1,476,078

Sub-divided:—

——	1889.	1890.
	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Civil establishment - - - -	1,041,220*	1,102,510†
Judicial „ - - - -	79,841	76,472
Pensions - - - - -	48,318	45,785
Ecclesiastical - - - -	25,219	25,219
Works and buildings - - -	151,650	142,547
Roads and streets (Colonial) - -	14,198	14,176
Miscellaneous - - - -	79,421	69,365

So that whilst the civil establishment charges, including those for hospital and cemetery, have increased by pesetas 61,288, if those charges be taken away, or even if the revenue derived from these public departments be taken into consideration, the actual expenditure on establishments and their contingencies will be shown to be less in 1890 than in the previous year.

The military expenditure is returned at 243,800*l.* in 1890 against 243,237*l.* in the previous year.

* Without hospital and cemetery expenditure

† Including hospital and cemetery expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities.

The Treasurer returns the balance of assets over liabilities at pesetas 518,710 against pesetas 472,345 on the 31st December 1889, so that the Colony has saved, in spite of a large decrease in its port dues, pesetas 46,364.

Public Debt.

None.

Municipal Debt.

The Sanitary Commissioners' loans raised on the general purposes rates, amount outstanding on 31st December 1890 52,441*l.* against, on 31st December 1889, 53,816*l.*

Legislation.

There were eight Ordinances passed in the year, foremost amongst which were the Adminstration of Justice, the Trustees' and the Investment of Trust Funds Ordinance.

The compilation of the existing laws by Mr. R. Ffrench Sheriff, Q.C., Her Majesty's Attorney-General of the Colony, was completed and published during the autumn of 1890, but the volume was not actually in force in the Colony until the early days of January 1891, as an Order in Council was necessary to give validity to this most useful work.

Nine proclamations promulgating various statutes, orders in council, and conventions of the Imperial Government with foreign Powers, were issued in the year and the remaining eleven proclamations were issued to give force and validity to the several local ordinances, and to rules made under the local law.

Civil Service.

The late Hon. Sir Leicester Smyth succeeded to the Government on the retirement of the Hon. Sir Arthur Hardinge on the 23rd August 1890.

Mr. Melfort Campbell, Colonial Treasurer, died in Gibraltar on the 12th of May and Mr. Ralph Champneys Williams was appointed in his place on the 19th July.

Mr. Andrew Patterson, Colonial Auditor, retired on a pension, after 40 years' continuous service, on the 31st December.

Mr. James J. Terry, chief clerk, Crown lands branch of the Treasury, also retired at the same date after completing his 46th year in the service; and there were some minor changes in the nursing staff of the colonial hospital.

Imports and Exports.

These details are nearly impossible to give, as to all intents and purposes the freedom of the port prevents any accurate figures from being returned.

Of wine, 889 botassos, 428 pipes, 241 hogsheads, 70 tierces, 1,070 quarter casks, 1,151 octaves, and 6,050 gallons in packages found their way here; spirits, 79 botassos, 113 pipes, 509 tierces, 111 quarter casks, and 618 octaves were entered; porter and ale are returned as imported at 6,218 hogsheads, 4,227 tierces, 6,528 quarter casks, 365 octaves, and 2,142 dozens in bottles.

Exported.

Wine, 43 botassos, 64 pipes, 82 hogsheads, 19 tierces, 760 quarter casks, 612 octaves, and about 5,988 gallons in packages; spirits, 46,460 gallons contained in 87 botassos, 101 pipes, 58 hogsheads, 280 tierces, 39 quarter casks, and 243 octaves.

The tobacco returns, inasmuch as no duty is paid thereon, are quite unreliable; for instance, we have 415 hogsheads and 24,364 cwts. in packages returned as the amounts imported, and the exports are given at 31 hogsheads and about 12,672 cwts. in various packages, and these figures cannot possibly represent the actual trade.

Shipping.

As I have observed above, there was a considerable falling off in the shipping returns, and we find the following comparative statements from the figures given for the two years:—

	1889.	1890.
Tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	12,515,850	11,488,693
British - - - - -	10,338,132	9,542,035
Foreign - - - - -	2,177,718	1,946,658
Steam - - - - -	12,329,547	11,340,895
Sailing - - - - -	186,303	147,798
Decrease in 1890 - -	Tonnage. 1,027,157	

The number of steam vessels entered in 1890 was 5,425.

Their crews consisted of 160,684, whilst the number of sailing vessels entered was 572 with crews numbering 4,654.

The returns of clearances give—steamers, 5,013; crews, 160 378; sailing, 409; crews, 4,345.

It is perfectly true that the quarantine restrictions of the past summer may be said to have caused a great portion of this falling off in the trade from whence the larger portion of the revenue is

GIBRALTAR.

derived, but the competition of Algiers and Malta as coaling depôts, to which allusion has been made, is a matter for serious consideration if the trade of this port is to be maintained, and those who depend for their living upon the coal and shipping agency business are viewing with grave apprehension the loss of many vessels which formerly called here for the purpose of taking in their supplies.

Population and Public Health.

The estimated civil population for the year 1890 was 18,527; these figures are based on the census of 1881. The military are returned at 5,697.

Brigade Surgeon Collins, Medical Staff, the Health Officer, in his annual report states that the public health was not so satisfactory in 1890 as in the previous years. Epidemic influences were prevalent. The total deaths were 406 against 392 in 1889, the death-rate for 1890 was 22·1 per 1,000, or an increase of 0·8 over 1889. Influenza in an epidemic form was prevalent during the first quarter of the year. The death-rate of children under five years of age was still very high and reached nearly 80 per 1,000.

One death was recorded at 92 years and one at the remarkable age of 102.

The births registered numbered 493 against 482 in the previous year, the rate in 1890 being 26·8 per 1,000.

The natural increment of the population in the last-named 12 months was therefore 87.

In the death tables we have under general diseases 139, against 161 in 1889. There were three deaths from small-pox and 36 cases reported. The epidemic commenced early in 1889, and the last case occurred on 5th July 1890; and it compared most favourably with that occurring in the year 1883–4, when 188 cases were recorded, and 27 deaths registered.

The Health Officer comments in serious terms on the almost complete neglect of re-vaccination amongst the civil community and reports favourably on the efficient condition of the small-pox hospital, North Front.

Measles caused eight deaths, diphtheria 161, and, with regard to the latter, Brigade Surgeon Collins comments in serious language on the frequency and heavy mortality of the disease, due to sanitary defects in the dwelling-houses of the poorer classes.

Enteric fever comes next; this disease caused only three deaths, the smallest on record in the history of Gibraltar.

Epidemic influenza is reported as proving fatal in nine instances. There were 852 cases of illness from the disease amongst the military alone. Calculating on the same ratio, the number of cases amongst the civilians must have been not short of 3,000.

Meteorological.

To the same officer's able report I am indebted for the following particulars:—

Climatic conditions were less favourable for health in 1890 than in previous years. The rainfall was slightly increased, but it did not come at the usual time.

Amount for 1890	-	-	33·39 inches.
„ „ 1889	-	-	30·86 „

Aveage for many years 32·79 inches.

The highest shade temperature was, on the 8th June, 89·2. Highest in 1889, on August 10th, 94·8.

Lowest 1890	-	-	35 on 29th November.
„ 1889	-	-	40·2 on 31st January.

Average degree of humidity, 71·0.

Crime.

1,714 offences were reported to the police, made up of 147 against the person, 23 against property, and 1,536 "other offences."

163 persons were discharged for want of prosecution or evidence, 179 cases were dismissed, 916 persons were summarily convicted, 5 were sent to the Superior Courts, and 443 were cautioned.

Including one case, which stood over from the previous year, six cases were dealt with at the Supreme Court, in four of which judgment was given for the Crown, one for the prisoner, and one case fell through. Of the four convictions, one was for unnatural crime, one for "other offences against the person," and two for "other offences against property."

Gaols and Prisons.

To the Gibraltar prison 191 persons were committed during the year, of whom 184 were males, two females, and five juveniles; one was for debt, six for security, 184 for penal imprisonment, and of these 26 had been convicted once, 5 twice, and 35 three times or over. The sentences of 173 were for three months or less, of eight for over three months but under 12, and three for over a year but under five.

The daily average in prison was 27·54 and that on the sick list was 0·19.

Hospital and Asylum.

50 patients remained over in the Colonial Hospital from 1889, and 768 cases were admitted.

The daily average was 56, 484 were discharged cured, 146 were discharged relieved, 58 left the hospital not "relieved," and 71 died.

GIBRALTAR.

This institution has continued to advance in popularity under its management as a Government Department.

The number of out-patients seeking relief was large, and satisfactory reports have been received by the Executive and duly communicated to the Secretary of State as to the working of this the youngest of all institutions under the Colonial Government.

The daily average of patients in the lunatic asylum was 29·63 composed of males, 22·67, females 6·96.

Nine patients were discharged, six cured, three relieved, and six died during the year.

In this institution there are three dormitories, three day-rooms, and 15 single rooms.

Education.

1,620 boys and 566 girls were returned in the Government-aided Roman Catholic Schools; 150 boys and 140 girls in the Wesleyan day school, 81 boys in the Wesleyan night school; 207 boys and 127 girls in the poor schools of the Hebrew community; 313 boys and 384 girls in the public school, and in the infant and industrial institution there were 190 boys and 170 girls.

The total Government contribution amounted to pesetas 37,078, the voluntary contributions to pesetas 11,920, and the school fees to pesetas 8,270.

In the secondary schools the Christian Brothers returned 275 boy pupils, the Loretto Day College for girls 178 and the Loretto Convent School for girls 104.

Public Works and Buildings.

Although the expenditure shows a saving of nearly pesetas 10,000 on this head, many works of utility were finished.

The covering to the Waterport shed was completed and proves eminently satisfactory; the markets were supplied with new awnings, improvements were commenced in the Post Office, the Governor's cottage was provided with new wooden ceilings, and the Alameda and Public Gardens were well maintained and improved.

The repair of all revenue buildings, which embraces all public offices &c., was well kept up.

General.

The report of the Chamber of Commerce dwells upon the effects of the quarantine restrictions upon the shipping trade. Whilst Gibraltar was compelled to exercise the greatest care in these matters in order to maintain her communication with the neighbouring countries of Spain and Morocco, from whence she draws her food supplies, the ports of the Mediterranean denied free *pratique* to vessels touching here on account of our proximity to

districts declared to be infected with cholera, so that ships were kept away for two reasons.

The report dwells also upon the dearness of labour here, the necessity for reducing the port dues in order to attract ships hither, and the detrimental effects which may result from any recurrence of strikes amongst the coal labourers.

The report also alludes to the advisability of establishing a slip for cleaning and repairing large steam launches, of building a Queen's store wherein wines in bond may be blended, and recurs to the subject of development of trade which would result on the extension of Custom House privileges in the neighbouring towns of Linea and Algeciras.

The Chamber looks upon the opening of the section of the Algeciras and Bobadilla Railway as far as Ximena, as the precursor of better things in the future; it regrets the loss by retirement of General the Honourable Sir Arthur Hardinge, the Governor, and the untimely decease of his successor the Honourable Sir Leicester Smyth, and speaks most favourably of the compilation of the Laws by Mr. Sheriff, Q.C., Her Majesty's Attorney-General.

The strikes in the coal trade, above alluded to, took place on the 23rd of September and again on the 14th December. The first was soon terminated by agreement between the labourers and their employers, but the last continued several days and promised at one time to be of some gravity. The police, however, under their Chief Officer, Mr. William Seed, aided on one occasion by the military, succeeded in keeping order and no very great mischief was done, although there was some rioting and dangerous stone throwing on the 17th December, which, but for prompt measures authorised by the Executive, might have ended very unsatisfactorily; the differences which were entirely due to discontent as to the manner of receiving their wages by the labourers, through foremen, were eventually settled, and it is to be hoped that no repetition of these events will occur to drive away the trade of the port, upon which the existence of so many in the community depends.

The drought in the summer caused a considerable fear of a scarcity of water; luckily, however, the condensed water supplied by the Sanitary Commissioners was sufficient to tide over the difficulty and rain fell at last when it was most needed. The warning from last year's apprehended dearth of this necessity will, it is to be hoped, be carefully regarded, and steps should be taken to place the city beyond any such an eventuality as an actual dearth of potable water. The supply of rain water is ample, a sufficiency of proper storage room is what is required, and is what I venture to think should be provided.

The report of Major Tulloch, R.E., the expert who was employed by the Government to investigate the water supply and the general sanitation of the Rock, was issued in the autumn, and his recommendations are under careful consideration.

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Statistical Returns.

The usual statistical returns will be found appended to this report.

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

Financial Position of the Colony of Gibraltar on 31st December 1890

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	Pesetas Cents.		Pesetas Cents.
Outstanding ground rents	51,501 66	Salaries	2,166 66
„ house rents	4,474 33	Allowances	630 50
Cash balance in Colonial Treasury	51,527 65	Pensions	3,380 01
„ in Crown Agent's hands	18,811 77	Grant in aid of Sailors' Mission	630 00
Invested funds as follows:—		Works and buildings	9,000 00
		Outstanding drafts on Crown Agents, viz.:—	
		£ s. d.	
£ 1,000 0 0 4 per cent. South Australia Debentures.		No. 337 of 28 February 1887 - 16 13 4	
3,542 1 6 3½ „ New South Wales Stock.		„ 344 „ 31 March „ - 16 13 4	
2,727 8 6 4 „ Canada Stock.		„ 352 „ 30 April „ - 16 13 4	
930 4 2 4 „ Cape of Good Hope Stock.		„ 357 „ 31 May „ - 16 13 4	
2,116 7 6 3 „ Canada Stock.		„ 368 „ 30 June „ - 16 13 4	
1,415 1 5 4 „ Jamaica Stock.		„ 373 „ 30 July „ - 16 13 4	
4,917 0 0 3½ „ Victoria Stock.		„ 378 „ 31 August „ - 16 13 4	
		„ 392 „ 30 September „ - 16 13 4	
16,648 3 1 at 26·3758 pesetas per £	439,108 43	„ 397 „ 31 October „ - 16 13 4	
		„ 403 „ 30 November „ - 16 13 4	
Accrued interest on invested funds, less income tax	6,231 64	„ 412 „ 30 December „ - 16 13 4	
North Front rents - about	6,888 00	„ 419 „ 31 January 1888 - 16 13 4	
Rent of limekiln for one quarter to 31st December 1890	1,000 00	„ 595 „ 30 December 1890 - 38 12 0	
„ contractor's store, North Front	208 33	„ 596 „ „ - 2 6 8	
„ Government dredger	458 33	„ 597 „ „ - 24 10 0	
Assets of the post office	63,011 70	„ 598 „ „ - 20 10 0	
„ telegraph office	5,004 17	£ 285 18 8 at 26·3758	7,541 71
		Liabilities of the post office	92,649 41
		„ „ telegraph office	13,517 39
			129,515 68
		Balance of assets over liabilities	518,710 33
Pesetas	648,226 01	Pesetas	648,226 01

APPENDIX II.

RETURNS FOR THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Population estimated.

1889		1890.	
Civil - -	18,493	Civil -	18,527
Military - -	5,616	Military - -	5,697
Male - -	14,218	Male - -	14,285
Female - -	9,891	Female - -	9,939

	1889.	1890.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - -	63,674	62,461
Gross amount of public expenditure -	57,594	59,043
Customs revenue - - -	11,709	11,867
Public debt - - - - -	Nil.	Nil.
	Tons	Tons
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	12,515,850	11,488,693
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	10,338,132	9,542,035
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	2,177,718	1,946,658
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	186,303	147,798
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared	12,329,547	11,340,895
Value of total imports - - -	No returns available.	
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -		
Value of total exports - - -		
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom - - - -		

APPENDIX III.

RETURN of the NUMBER, TONNAGE, and CREWS of VESSELS entered and cleared from and to Foreign Countries *viâ* the Suez Canal during the year 1890.

Countries.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
India - -	151	286,378	11,491	63	141,132	9,443
Australia - -	54	152,278	9,902	46	131,740	8,186
Burmah -	19	26,598	522	1	1,513	35
Hong Kong -	1	1,241	22	2	2,538	76
Japan - -	20	32,826	825	5	5,902	152
Manilla - -	17	28,610	580	1	45	12
Java - -	15	22,422	480	12	10,681	358
Persia - -	10	12,115	282	—	—	—
Siam - -	4	7,015	119	1	107	13
China - -	3	4,307	140	2	3,482	232
Cochin China -	2	3,036	55	1	551	17
Zanzibar - -	1	200	20	1	557	57
Arabia - -	1	701	26	—	—	—
Asiatic Turkey -	—	—	—	2	3,135	58
Aden - -	—	—	—	3	4,697	180
Straits Settlements -	—	—	—	6	6,947	199
Sumatra - -	—	—	—	1	1,272	25
Reunion Island -	—	—	—	1	1,644	28
Suez - -	—	—	—	1	706	66
Total -	298	577,727	24,464	149	316,649	19,137

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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 1.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 71, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–9
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

[*Note.*—The Reports on H M. Colonial Possessions will, in future, be divided into two classes—Annual and Miscellaneous. This Report forms No. 1 of the Annual Series.]

No. 1.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 71, Old Series.]

Administrator MELVILLE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Belize,
November 13, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889, and to express my great regret that from unavoidable causes I have been unable to transmit it, with my report thereon, to your Lordship at a much earlier date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. MELVILLE,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the RESULTS shown in the BLUE BOOK of the COLONY of BRITISH HONDURAS for the Year 1889.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

The only change in duties during the year was a temporary imposition of an export duty upon logwood at the rate of 75 cents per ton, and upon bananas at the rate of one cent per bunch.

These duties were imposed until the Government was recouped for the cost of the demonetization of the Mexican dollar.

The Treasury rate of the dollar of currency was fixed at 2*s.* 10*d.* for the year, and the *ad valorem* duties were assessed accordingly.

Revenue.

The total revenue for the year 1889 shows an increase of $50,237.24 cents as compared with that of the previous year, which may be explained by increases under the following heads:—

	$
Customs - - - -	45,271.36
Land revenue - - -	3,806.35

o 65070. Wt. 18975.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the year was $325,877.36 cents as compared with $297,935.92 cents of the preceding year, which shows an increase of $27,941.44 cents.

This increase is principally due to the cost of the demonetization of the Mexican dollar, about $20,000; to the cost of the survey of Blue Creek, about $3,000.00; and to the additional cost of a weekly mail, about $3,000.00.

Public Debt.

This consists of two loans, one of $55,750.00, raised in the Colony under Ordinance No. 13 of 1885, and another of 9,000*l.*, raised in England under Ordinance No. 1 of 1887. The former loan bears interest at 5 per cent. and the later 4½. There is no difference between this year's statement and that of 1888. The usual provision has been made on the estimate for interest and sinking fund, and investments have also been made by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Government of this Colony for the redemption of these loans in the inscribed stock of New South Wales and Cape of Good Hope Governments under Ordinances No. 13 of 1885 and No. 6 of 1886 and Nos. 1 and 2 of 1887.

Constabulary.

The expenditure shown under this head gives a decrease of about $10,000.00, which is due to the fact that provision was made on the estimate for 1889 for the full strength of the force, to which it has recently attained; but the actual difference in the cost of the force shows an increase of about $5,700.00 for the year 1889, less $1,700.00 repaid to the Government for the sale of stores, &c. issued to the men.

Public Works.

No works of any importance were undertaken during the year except the bridge over "Joe Taylor" Creek at a cost of $912.00, and the second half of Lord's Ridge Cemetery, which is not yet completed and on which has been expended the sum of $1,519.91 cents. The total cost of public works for the year 1889 amounted to $29,986.40 cents and shows an increase of about $1,000.00 as compared with that of the preceding year.

Legislation.

There were 21 Laws or Ordinances passed during the year as compared with 13 in the year 1888, none of which, however, are of special importance, or require particular reference in this report, except perhaps Ordinance No. 1, "To demonetize certain coins," and Ordinance No. 18, "To declare the law relating to marriage."

Civil Establishment.

His Excellency Governor Goldsworthy left the Colony for England on leave of absence on medical certificate on the 30th October, when Mr. Treasurer McKinney, as senior member of the Executive Council in the Colony, in the absence on leave also of Mr. Jerningham, administered the government. Mr. McKinney acted as Colonial Secretary during the absence of Mr. Jerningham on vacation leave to England from the 12th April. Mr. H. C. Usher, District Magistrate of Belize, acted as Colonial Treasurer. The office of Colonial Secretary, &c., rendered vacant by the promotion of Mr. H. E. H. Jerningham to be Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, was filled by the appointment in November of Mr. George Melville, formerly Assistant Government Secretary of British Guiana. Mr. Hoffmeister acted as Chief Justice during the absence on leave to England of Mr. Goodman; Mr. T. H. Parker, Registrar, as Attorney General, and Mr. Bristowe, clerk to the Registrar, as Registrar.

Pensions.

Three pensioners have been struck off the list, the following have died:—Rev. David Arthur, B. A. Cody, and R. S. Weir; and one has been added. J. Gentle, coxswain of the Customs boat. The charge on the revenue for pensions is, therefore, reduced by about $1,100.00.

Population.

According to the returns of the Registrar-General, there is shown in the year 1889 an increase to the population of the Colony of 317, owing to the excess of births over deaths; but after the census of the Colony in 1891 has been taken it is very desirable that provision should be made for the more regular transmission of the quarterly returns of the district registrars.

Savings Bank.

This return shows only the total amount at credit of depositors at Belize, which was, at 31st December 1889, $41,348.76 cents, as compared with $40,628.04 at the same date in the previous year. There are branches of the Government Savings' Bank at Corosal and Orange Walk, but the bulk of the deposits in these branches is remitted to Belize.

Education.

A new school (Church of England) was opened at Corosal in February, and another (Roman Catholic) at Red Cliff in the southern district, besides one, from which no return has been received, by the Baptist Church, at Tilleton in the Northern District, also in September.

Two new schools, therefore, have been properly added to the list for the year. The numbers on the registers show, however, a

BRITISH HONDURAS.

decrease of 11 as compared with the previous year, and the average daily attendance also continues to decrease.

It is evident from these figures that more frequent inspections are required, and while the different denominations are using all endeavours to provide schools in outlying districts, the Government, from the present arrangements made for an Inspector of schools, has been unable to carry out in a satisfactory manner its obligations to encourage, maintain, and test efficient education throughout the Colony.

Draft regulations for the appointment of pupil-teachers will shortly receive the attention of the Executive.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports in currency for the year 1889 shows an increase of $384,279, as compared with the similar total for the year 1888; but this increase is misleading as to its extent, as the dollar of currency for the year 1889 was fixed at 2*s.* 10*d.*, whereas in the previous year the Treasury rate was 3*s.* 1*d.*, thus increasing in currency the sterling value of imports.

	$	
The chief increases were, therefore, naturally from the United Kingdom	897,201.00	
as compared with - - -	684,677.00	in 1888;
	212,524.00	
and from the United States -	664,195.00	
as compared with the previous year -	572,851.00	
	91,344.00	

The imports, however, from Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua show very appreciable and *bonâ fide* increases, as the dollar in circulation in these Republics is of the same value as in the Colony.

The total value of exports for the year 1889 shows an increase as compared with that in 1888 of $629.439.00, the total exported in 1889 being $2,155,554.00, and in 1888 $1,526,115.00. This is a very large increase as compared with $176,406.00, the difference between 1887 and 1888.

The increase in the value of exports in the year 1889, which was an exceptionally prosperous one for the mahogany and logwood cutters, is made up chiefly by the following items:—

	1888.	1889.
	$	$
Mahogany - - - -	179,051.00	361,940.00
Logwood - - - -	547,613.00	807,468.00
Bananas - - - -	155,017.00	177,241.00

The number of bunches of bananas exported to the United States in 1889 was		356,285
As compared with		310,034 in 1888
	Increase	46,251

Shipping.

The total number of steamers and sailing vessels entered at the ports of the Colony in 1889 was 520 as against 463 in the preceding year.

Agricultural.

There are no changes as to cultivated and uncultivated lands and as to the rates of wages for labour; but the rate returned for 1889 as the remuneration per day for prædial labour, 50 cents, is very much understated, as $1.00 per day for an ordinary labourer has been the minimum. The rate paid now by the Belize Estate and Produce Company for a day labourer is $1.75 cents. The returns from the districts of produce, stock, &c. have been received in such an incomplete state for the years 1888 and 1889 that it is impossible to make any reliable comparison of them.

Grants of Land.

The total number of grants made in 1889 was 23 as compared with 12 in 1888, and the acreage shows a total in the year under review of 1,384, as against 204 in the preceding year. This increase is accounted for to a great extent by a grant to the Waliz Fruit Company of 1,028 acres. The survey of Blue Creek occupied the Assistant Crown Surveyor for a considerable portion of the year; and the laying out of lots to be leased by the Crown about five miles up the Stann Creek was the next important work undertaken by the Crown Lands Department. The instructions given to the Department that land in the neighbourhood of the probable line which a railway would take was not to be sold or leased prevented any surveys being made in that part of the Colony; but with the staff of the Department as it at present exists very little can be done as regards new surveys.

Gaols and Prisons.

The total number of persons committed to the different prisons of the Colony in 1889 was 477 as against 548 in 1888. Of the total number of prisoners for 1889, 345 were committed for the purpose of penal imprisonment and 132 for debt or for want of bail.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

The re-convictions numbered: once, 64; twice, 16; thrice or more, 11.

Out of the 58 admissions to hospital during the year there were no deaths.

Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates for the year was 1,963 as against 2,001 in 1888. The total number of summary convictions in the Magistrates' Courts shows also a decrease, the number in 1889 being 1,334 as against 1,463 in the previous year; in the Supreme Courts the convictions were 29 in 1889 as compared with 45 in 1888.

Hospitals.

The number of patients in the Colonial Hospital at the beginning of the year 1889 was 24 as compared with 14 at the same time in 1888; the number admitted during the year, 261 as compared with 314 in the previous year; the daily average in hospital during 1889 was 19·76 as compared with 21·89 in the preceding year; and the number of deaths in 1889 was 37 as against 35 in 1888.

There were on the 31st December 1889 in the Public Hospital, Belize, 31 inmates; in the lunatic asylum, 28, and in the poorhouse, 15; and the erection of a new poorhouse has just been completed.

No return has been received from the Public Hospital, Corosal.

General Remarks.

Judging by the results shown under the different heads of the Blue Book, it can be said that the Colony has shown a most satisfactory progress during the year 1889.

The revenue, imports, and exports, returns are most encouraging; but the plentiful supply of labour which is wanting at present, and which if not soon obtained must at no distant date have a most serious effect on the general prosperity of the Colony, is a matter which deserves the most anxious consideration of the Government.

The progress of the works for the improvement of the town and harbour of Belize have been greatly retarded by this want. The speedy construction, however, of the much-to-be-desired railway in the Colony would of necessity require a large importation of labourers; would be the means of opening up the country and immensely adding to the value of its exports; and would apparently be the only means of averting a long standing menace to the general progress and prosperity of the Colony.

(Signed) GEO. MELVILLE,
Colonial Secretary and
Administrator.

1st November 1890.

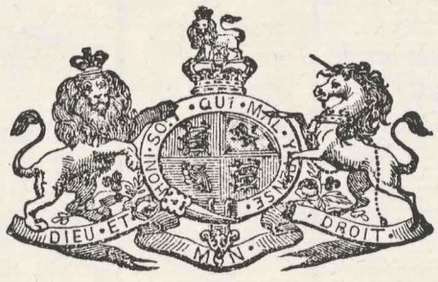
No. 9.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 82, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.–8.]

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85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,

No. 9.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Sir W. F. HAYNES SMITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Antigua,
March 11, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book for the Leeward Islands for the year 1889, together with a report from the Colonial Secretary.

2. The Blue Book for the Colony is in substitution for the five Blue Books which were formerly issued, a separate Blue Book having hitherto been issued for each of the five Presidencies of the Colony. It is hoped that the usual information will be found to have been compiled in the present Blue Book for the whole Colony in a more convenient form than when it had to be obtained from the separate Blue Books for each Presidency, while full details are at the same time given in the present Blue Book as to each separate Island and Presidency.

3. Various causes have unfortunately delayed the printing of the Blue Book for the year 1889 for so long a period, that I reserve any remarks on the condition and prospects of the Colony until the issue of the Blue Book for the year 1890, which is now being completed in the ordinary course.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua,
February 24, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889, together with a brief report I have made thereon.

For the first time the Blue Book has been printed, and to the time the printing has occupied is the delay in its presentation mainly attributable.

o 66840. Wt. 18975.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

I have every reason to hope that I may have the 1890 Blue Book ready not later than June next.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
W. F. Haynes Smith, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of the LEEWARD ISLANDS COLONY for the Year 1889.

1.—REVENUE.

The year 1889 brought in 112,254*l.* as against 104,442*l.* in 1888. Of this increase (7,812*l.*) 7,541*l.* was received from Customs.

In St. Kitts-Nevis there was a small decrease of 35*l.*, but in each of the other Presidencies the revenue was in excess of the previous year's receipts.

The following statements show the receipts for each Presidency in 1889 and a comparison between the total revenue and the Customs receipts in 1888 and 1889:—

1889.

Comparative Statement of Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	31,377 5 6	26,585 3 7	12,213 0 0
2. Port, harbour, wharf, and lighthouse dues	1,237 7 7	3,404 14 4	839 0 4
3. Licences, Excise, &c.	5,866 10 3	7,044 12 7	5,819 4 4
4. Fees of Court, &c.	3,330 19 1	1,139 0 6	446 14 5
5. Post Office, &c.	1,027 15 2	905 8 4	444 0 8
6. Rents of Government property	200 0 0	459 6 6	—
7. Interest	202 6 0	153 13 2	21 14 7
8. Miscellaneous receipts	166 7 2	313 4 6	40 13 9
Total	43,408 10 9	40,005 3 6	19,824 8 1
9. Land Sales	—	—	—
Total	43,408 10 9	40,005 3 6	19,824 8 1
Arrears of 1888	—	28 17 1	671 13 2
Total revenue	43,408 10 9	40,032 0 7	20,496 1 3

(*Continued.*)

Heads of Revenue.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total Leeward Islands.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs - - - - -	4,470 14 2	1,136 16 2	75,782 19 5
2. Port, harbour, wharf and lighthouse dues - - - - -	13 3 9	24 7 6	5,518 13 6
3. Licenses, Excise, &c. - - -	1,493 18 1	295 5 4	20,519 10 7
4. Fees of Court, &c. - - -	214 3 9	92 6 9	5,223 4 6
5. Post Office, &c. - - - -	210 17 3	225 5 7	2,813 7 0
6. Rents of Government property -	—	0 10 0	659 16 6
7. Interest - - - - -	—	—	377 13 9
8. Miscellaneous receipts - - -	11 12 1	17 6 3	549 3 9
Total - - - -	6,414 9 1	1,791 17 7	111,444 9 0
9. Land Sales - - - -	—	96 19 5	96 19 5
Total - - - -	6,414 9 1	1,888 17 0	111,541 8 5
Arrears of 1888 - - - -	11 15 10	—	712 6 1
Total revenue - - -	6,426 4 11	1,888 17 0	112,253 14 6

Presidency.	1888.		1889.	
	Revenue.	Customs.	Revenue.	Customs.
	£	£	£	£
Antigua - - -	39,522	28,116	43,409	31,377
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	40,069	27,773	40,034	26,585
Dominica - - -	17,450	8,594	20,496	12,213
Montserrat - - -	5,851	3,045	6,426	4,471
Virgin Islands - -	1,550	715	1,889	1,137
Total - - -	104,442	68,242	112,254	75,783

2.—EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure in 1889 was 108,551*l.*, as against 116,225*l.* in 1888. It was less than the revenue by a sum of 3,703*l.* About one-fifth of it (21,265*l.*) was disbursed under the heads "Medical" and "Hospitals," and more than one-sixth (16,496*l.*) under "Public Works." The charge on account of the public debt was 3,743*l.*, and the pensions paid amounted to 3,668*l.*

The collection of the Customs cost 6,960*l.*

A table showing the amounts disbursed in each Presidency is appended.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1889.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure.	Antigua.	St. Kitt's-Nevis.	Dominica.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on account, public debt -	1,602 3 0	698 3 2	1,197 4 4
2. Pensions - - - -	258 13 4	2,173 10 3	763 14 4
3. Legislature - - - -	75 0 0	100 0 0	51 7 6
4. Island Secretary (Commissioner) -	162 19 7	776 16 3	754 8 11
5. Federal contribution - -	2,794 11 4	3,050 5 9	1,614 10 3
6. Treasury and Customs - -	2,362 16 8	2,243 8 3	1,929 19 3
7. Audit - - - - -	170 0 0	—	—
8. Port and marine - - -	618 7 3	72 10 7	58 16 9
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal -	957 14 10	721 18 6	570 12 4
Magistrates - - - -	1,055 0 0	1,834 14 5	542 11 6
10. Police - - - - -	3,538 3 9	2,688 9 10	1,811 17 10
11. Prisons - - - - -	1,849 1 1	1,521 12 3	653 9 9
12. Medical - - - -	2,235 7 8	2,009 8 6	926 13 0
13. Hospitals - - - -	6,749 18 7	4,987 15 10	2,564 15 11
14. Education - - - -	1,239 6 0	1,450 1 4	926 3 6
15. Ecclesiastical - - - -	671 18 8	789 5 0	—
16. Board of Health - - -	2,336 13 2	1,713 6 3	566 8 7
17. Registration and vaccination -	276 15 0	545 4 6	151 0 8
18. Public market - - -	195 12 8	63 19 6	15 19 0
19. Public library - - -	180 0 0	37 0 0	—
20. Laboratory - - - -	629 9 7	—	—
21. Military - - - -	1,009 0 3	55 0 0	—
22. Miscellaneous - - - -	620 3 9	591 9 10	927 3 10
23. Post Office - - - -	1,338 4 3	1,539 16 7	589 17 4
Telegraphs - - - -	800 0 0	800 0 0	800 0 0
Telephones - - - -	728 14 3	376 16 5	—
24. Public Works Department - -	1,067 11 5	782 13 7	526 5 4
25. Public works recurrent - -	5,918 9 7	3,637 12 3	1,971 16 3
Total - - - -	41,441 15 8	35,060 18 10	19,914 16 2
26. Public works extraordinary -	—	4,024 8 10	—
Total - - - -	41,441 15 8	39,085 7 8	19,914 16 2
Arrears of 1888 - - -	13 11 5	—	—
Total - - - -	41,455 7 1	39,085 7 8	19,914 16 2

(*Continued.*)

Heads of Expenditure.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total Leeward Islands.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charge on account, public debt -	245 0 0	—	3,742 10 6
2. Pensions - - - -	337 7 1	134 16 2	3,668 1 2
3. Legislature - - - -	—	5 0 0	231 7 6
4. Island Secretary (Commissioner) -	490 0 0	466 14 4	2,650 19 1
5. Federal contribution - -	538 3 5	174 15 10	8,172 6 7
6. Treasury and Customs - -	266 0 1	158 1 8	6,960 5 11
7. Audit - - - - -	—	—	170 0 0
8. Port and marine - - -	—	—	749 14 7
9. Registrar and Provost Marshal -	33 14 8	—	2,284 0 4
Magistrates - - - -	24 0 0	66 19 7	3,523 5 6
10. Police - - - - -	358 10 10	32 12 6	8,429 14 9
11. Prisons - - - -	180 2 8	102 10 10	4,306 16 7
12. Medical - - - -	426 6 10	204 18 1	5,802 14 1
13. Hospitals - - - -	873 13 4	286 4 7	15,462 8 3
14. Education - - - -	339 9 0	91 4 0	4,046 3 10
15. Ecclesiastical - - - -	458 15 0	12 0 0	1,931 18 8
16. Board of Health - - -	123 10 2	—	4,739 18 2
17. Registration and vaccination -	62 13 8	25 13 9	1,061 7 7
18. Public market - - -	34 16 0	—	310 7 2
19. Public library - - -	25 0 0	—	242 0 0
20. Laboratory - - - -	—	—	629 9 7
21. Military - - - -	—	—	1,064 0 3
22. Miscellaneous - - - -	183 19 0	70 0 11	2,392 17 4
23. Post Office - - - -	183 5 2	80 14 1	3,531 17 5
Telegraphs - - - -	—	—	2,400 0 0
Telephones - - - -	—	—	1,105 10 8
24. Public Works Department -	55 0 0	—	2,431 10 4
25. Public works recurrent - -	522 18 1	38 12 11	12,089 19 1
Total - - - -	5,762 5 0	1,950 19 3	104,130 14 11
26. Public works extraordinary -	382 8 8	—	4,406 17 6
Total - - - -	6,144 13 8	1,950 19 3	108,537 12 5
Arrears of 1888 - - -	—	—	13 11 5
Total - - - -	6,144 13 8	1,950 19 3	108,551 3 10

3.—PUBLIC DEBT.

The gross liabilities of the Colony increased in 1889 from 80,819*l.* to 91,631*l.*, the gross assets having also been increased from 32,987*l.* to 45,389*l.*

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In Antigua an additional sum of 500*l.* was raised for completing the loan of 5,000*l.* sanctioned for the Grays Hill reservoir under Act 13 of 1888. In St. Kitts-Nevis 9,000*l.* was placed to the credit of the Nevis waterworks loan, authorised under Ordinance No. 8 of 1888, and in Dominica a loan of 13,000*l.* was arranged under the Road Loan Act 14 of 1888.

The following table, which was prepared for me by the Auditor General, gives details for each Presidency:—

Assets.

Presidency.	Cash in hand.	Sums due.	Sums invested.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - - -	9,134 0 5	1,643 18 10	4,466 8 2	15,295 7 5
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	10,459 10 8½	110 8 11	11,321 11 2	21,891 10 9½
Dominica - - -	2,216 15 6	378 1 9	4,489 15 5½	7,084 12
Montserrat - - -	681 4 9½	241 4 7	173 0 0	1,095 9 4½
Virgin Islands - - -	0 0 0¾	22 6 9	—	22 6 9¾
Total - -	22,551 11 5¾	2,387 0 10	20,450 14 9½	45,389 7 1¾

Liabilities.

Presidency.	Loans.	Deposits.	Due for Money Orders.	Due to Crown Agents.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - - -	25,871 0 0	1,311 18 4½	13 16 4	—
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	11,900 0 0	14,060 10 11½	—	44 18 7
Dominica - - -	26,400 0 0	340 0 7	119 12 4½	—
Montserrat - - -	3,900 0 0	—	—	—
Virgin Islands - -	—	401 2 9	—	91 17 6
Total - -	68,071 0 0	16,113 13 8	133 8 8½	136 16 1

(*continued.*)

Presidency.	Due to Federal Government.	Miscellaneous Accounts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua - - -	—	—	27,196 14 8½
St. Kitts-Nevis - -	241 0 0½	6,192 18 2½	32,446 7 9½
Dominica - - -	78 2 4½	95 5 11	27,033 1 3
Montserrat - - -	—	—	3,900 0 0
Virgin Islands - -	277 9 6	284 13 5	1,055 3 2
Total - -	603 11 11	6,572 17 6½	91,631 6 11

4.—PUBLIC WORKS.

16,496*l.* is shown as expended under this head. The repairs, &c., to the public roads cost 7,557*l.*, or nearly one half the total expenditure, while the current repairs to the public buildings nearly absorbed the balance. 12,089*l.* may be looked upon as recurrent expenditure and the balance as extraordinary.

In Antigua Wilikies reservoir was completed at a total cost of 919*l.* and an additional reservoir to hold 2,800,000 gallons was under construction at Gray's Hill. The latter reservoir is for the supply of the city of St. John's.

5.—LEGISLATION.

Between them the six Legislatures of the Colony passed 58 Bills. Eleven of them had reference to the expenditure of the Colony and five were needed to substitute in the laws of the Colony one word for another, viz., the term "Commissioner" for the term "President."

The bankruptcy laws were consolidated and the Coroners Acts amended. The law with regard to neglect of infants was amended and extended. In Montserrat export duty was abolished and in the other Presidencies several matters of local importance were dealt with.

The Federal or general Legislative Council which met at St. Kitts on the 4th May and adjourned after seven days passed 14 Acts. The Antigua Council passed 11, the St. Kitts-Nevis 13, the Dominica Assembly 6, and the Montserrat and Virgin Islands Councils 11 and 3 respectively.

6.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The principal movements and changes were as follows:—

Mr. Frederick Evans, C.M.G., relieved Captain Maling as Colonial Secretary of the Colony and Island Secretary of Antigua on the 8th March. The term "President" having been changed to the term "Commissioner," Captain Spencer-Churchill and Mr. E. H. Baynes were appointed Commissioners of St. Kitts-Nevis and Montserrat respectively. Mr. W. H. Whyham was appointed to act as President of Dominica and Mr. F. Spencer-Wigley was appointed to act as Commissioner of St. Kitts-Nevis. Mr. Thomas Baynes was appointed first puisne judge vice Judge Pemberton deceased. Mr. C. R. Tyser resigned the office of Attorney-General and Mr. C. H. Beard was appointed to that of Solicitor-General. Mr. F. W. Watkins was appointed Inspector of Schools. Doctors Branch, Rat, and Armstrong were appointed Government medical officers.

The Governor was on leave of absence from 5th January to 25th January and from 16th September to 17th November, when Captain Maling and Mr. Evans respectively administered the general government of the Colony.

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7.—EDUCATION.

In 1889 the average attendance at the primary schools was 6,906, and there were 12,573 names on the books of the schools, the corresponding numbers for the preceding year being 7,048 and 12,773. The slight decrease in 1889 is due to the inclemency of the weather and to a more rigid system of registration.

The number of schools examined was 112 as against 44 in 1875 and 112 in 1888.

Owing to the changes in the inspectorate few changes were effected, but reports suggesting radical reforms in the existing system which had been in force since 1874 were prepared and submitted for the consideration of the Government. The introduction of compulsory education, the raising of the status and qualifications of the teachers, and the establishment of a pupil-teacher's system were among the questions discussed in those reports.

Statement showing the Number and Denomination of the Schools in each Presidency.

Presidency.	Government.	Anglican.	R. Catholic.	Wesleyan.	Moravian.	Undenominational.	Total.
Antigua	—	16	—	10	12	1	39
St. Kitts	—	10	1	9	6	—	26
Nevis	—	5	—	5	—	—	10
Dominica	13	2	4	3	—	—	22
Montserrat	—	6	1	3	—	1	11
Virgin Islands	—	2	—	2	—	—	4
	13	41	6	32	18	2	112

Statement showing the Average Attendance, &c., of each Presidency during 1889.

Presidency.	Number on Roll.	Average attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	Expenditure of each Island.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua	4,253	2,285	234 6 1	1,075 2 0	424 3 0	1,733 11 1
St. Kitts	3,136	1,778	111 15 9	773 6 0	290 4 7	1,175 6 4
Nevis	1,489	795	62 5 0	336 1 0	114 5 0	512 11 0
Dominica	1,926	1,026	83 2 5	848 8 8	54 3 9	985 14 10
Montserrat	1,445	850	61 0 10	339 9 0	119 15 9	520 5 7
Virgin Islands	324	173	10 8 7	96 10 0	106 16 1	213 14 8
Total	12,573	6,906	562 18 8	3,468 16 8	1,109 8 2	5,141 3 6

In the above table are included, in Dominica, 13 Government schools, the teachers of which receive fixed salaries.

Under a local Act of 1882 the Antigua Grammar School, which was founded in 1884, is assisted by a grant of 200*l.* a year for 10 years. Besides the grammar school there are several other schools for secondary education in Antigua, among them being the Coke Memorial College, established in 1887 by the West Indian Wesleyan Conference.

In the Coke College there is a class for Kindergarten instruction.

At the Cambridge local examinations, a centre for which was in 1888 established at Antigua, 15 candidates (12 boys and three girls) were presented, and of these 11 were successful.

Many of the teachers of the primary schools receive their training at the Mico College, which was established in 1837. In the last 17 years 131 students have been trained. The institution, which since 1878 has been aided by a Government grant of 200*l.* is conducted on undenominational principles and is examined annually by the Inspector of Schools.

8.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The returns in the blue book give the value of the gross imports as 416,215*l.* and that of the exports as 674,925*l.*, but from these figures is excluded the value of the internal trade, or trade between the islands forming the Colony, so that to obtain a fair comparison between the 1888 returns in which the internal trade for the year is included and the 1889 returns we must add to the latter imports to the value of 12,764*l.* and exports to the value of 14,858*l.*

With these additions the value of the imports in 1889 appear as 428,979*l.* as against 405,210*l.* in 1888 and that of the exports as 689,783*l.* as against 509,709*l.*, the imports showing an increase of 23,769*l.* and the exports an increase of 180,074*l.*

The increase in imports is really larger than is here shown, the value of some items in the 1888 returns for St. Kitts-Nevis having been over estimated and having unduly increased the imports for that year by some 14,000*l.*

Each Presidency of the Colony participated in the prosperity of the year. In Antigua there was an increase of 7,995*l.* in the imports and of 67,500*l.* in the exports. There was an increase of 3,100*l.* in alcoholic liquors, of 2,900*l.* in machinery, and of 3,100*l.* in agricultural manures. In haberdashery there was a falling off. The export of sugar increased 62,143*l.* and of molasses 5,836*l.*

In St. Kitts-Nevis there was really an increase of about 20,000*l.* in the imports, but owing to the value of flour having been estimated at 17*s.* 6*d.* in 1889 and at 25*s.* in 1888, this item is about 10,000*l.*, less in apparent value; a similar deduction of 4,351*l.* has to be made from the 1888 valuation of tallow, &c. This difference of calculation (14,351*l.*), added to a falling off in haberdashery (800*l.*), in salted provisions (1,500*l.*), and in grain (2,000*l.*), reduces the apparent increase to 4,000*l.*

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In the exports there was an increase of 106,000*l.*, sugar having increased 99,000*l.* and molasses 6,800*l.*

In Dominica there was an increase of about 8,000*l.* in the imports and of over 5,000*l.* in the exports. In the imports the increase was general, wood being the only item in which the increase was noticeable. The cocoa and coffee exports increased by nearly 3,000*l.*

In Montserrat the increase of 3,500*l.* in the imports was general, as was also the increase of 520*l.* in the exports.

The Virgin Islands obtained an increase of 350*l.* in the imports and of 970*l.* in the exports.

In the trade between the Presidencies there was an increase of 1,182*l.* in the imports and of 1,311*l.* in the exports. The imports from the United Kingdom increased 17,000*l.*, but the exports thereto decreased 1,600*l.*

From British North America we received 1,800*l.* more imports and to this country we sent 14,368*l.* more exports.

There was an increase of 1,500*l.* in the imports from Barbados and a small increase of 100*l.* in the exports thereto.

From the United States we received 4,400*l.* less imports, but to them our exports were largely increased, 545,285*l.* having been sent in 1889 as against 377,693*l.* in 1888. Comparative statements showing the imports and exports of each Presidency are appended.

Principal Articles of Import.

Principal Articles.	1888.	1889.	1889.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors	9,837	17,973	8,136	—
Boots and shoes	8,001	8,437	436	—
Cottons, woollens, and linens (unmade)	60,187	61,794	1,607	—
Grain	18,092	16,703	—	1,389
Haberdashery and millinery	26,549	23,442	—	3,107
Hardware	13,637	16,171	2,534	—
Machinery	4,433	10,706	6,273	
Manures	11,319	17,715	6,396	—
Oilmeal	5,707	6,068	361	—
Provisions:—				
Breadstuffs	69,903	59,788	—	10,115
Salted and dried	56.363	58,919	2,556	—
Groceries	7,146	9,823	2,677	—
Tallow and oils	14,566	11,896	—	2,670
Tobacco	4,566	5,765	1,199	—
Wood shooks, &c.	27,170	32,110	4,940	—
Other articles	56,152	58,905	2,753	—
Total Foreign Trade	393,628	416,215	39,868	17,281
Internal Trade	11,582	12,764	1,182	—
	405,210	428,979	41,050	17,281

Net increase, 23,769*l.*

Value of Imports into each Presidency of the Colony in 1889.

Articles.	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors - -	5,256	9,147	2,934	540	96	17,973
Boots and shoes - - -	3,584	2,875	1,513	406	59	8,437
Cottons, woollens and linens (unmade) - - -	19,367	25,326	11,976	4,779	346	61,794
Grain - - - -	8,812	6,817	776	195	103	16,703
Haberdashery and millinery -	9,705	9,792	2,535	1,390	20	23,442
Hardware - - -	6,258	6,582	1,801	1,456	74	16,171
Machinery - - -	5,150	4,592	497	467	—	10,706
Manures - - - -	7,507	7,317	2,711	180	—	17,715
Mineral - - - -	1,770	4,011	131	156	—	6,068
Provisions:—						
Bread stuffs - - -	23,732	25,965	6,153	2,563	1,375	59,788
Salted and dried - -	23,776	23,403	7,101	4,289	250	58,819
Groceries - - -	4,382	4,069	1,003	322	47	9,823
Tallow and oils - - -	3,702	4,041	3,134	868	151	11,896
Tobacco - - - -	1,911	2,172	1,353	277	52	5,765
Wood shooks, &c. - -	10,892	16,985	1,749	2,167	317	32,110
Other articles - - -	21,823	23,805	10,287	2,685	405	59,005
	157,627	176,899	55,654	22,740	3,295	416,215
Internal Trade - -	8,160	896	1,575	2,104	29	12,764
	165,787	177,795	57,229	24,844	3,324	428,979

Principal Articles of Export.

Articles.		1888.	1889.	1889.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Fruits and fruit juices	£	18,868	19,750	882	—
Cocoa and coffee	Lbs.	526,565	702,611	176,046	—
	£	8,841	11,797	2,956	—
Sugar - -	Tons	37,386	41,311	3,925	—
	£	396,866	555,970	159,104	—
Molasses - -	Puns.	15,562	17,024	1,462	—
	£	49,304	63,729	14,425	—

Articles.		1888.	1889.	1889.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Rum - -	Proof galls.	59,633	48,518	—	11,115
	£	2,861	2,470	—	391
Other articles produced in the Colony.		9,216	13,340	4,124	—
Foreign produce re-exported -		10,206	7,869	—	2,337
		496,162	674,925	181,491	2,728
Internal trade - -		13,547	14,858	1,311	—
		509,709	689,783	182,802	2,728
			Net increase 180,074*l.*		

Principal Articles of Produce exported from each Presidency of the Colony in 1889.

Article.		Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Fruits and fruit juices	£	2,040	549	8,331	8,745	85	19,750
Coffee and cocoa	Lbs.	—	320	702,291	—	—	702,611
	£	—	16	11,781	—	—	11,797
Sugar - -	Tons	17,050	19,967	2,530	1,754	10	41,311
	£	223,007	298,364	18,967	15,428	204	555,970
Molasses - -	Puns.	8,842	7,128	559	495	—	17,024
	£	34,203	27,236	1,258	1,032	—	63,729
Rum - -	Proof galls.	60	47,548	784	120	—	48,518
	£	4	2,395	59	12	—	2,470
Other articles. Produce of Colony.		655	2,504	5,001	1,345	3,835	13,340
Foreign produce re-exported -		807	6,632	391	29	10	7,869
		260,716	337,697	45,787	26,591	4,134	674,925
Internal trade - -		5,806	5,506	1,538	1,801	207	14,858
		266,522	343,203	47,325	28,392	4,341	689,783

Trade of 1888 *and* 1889.

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	184,150	201,159	59,970	54,393
British North America - -	15,931	17,890	36,965	51,333
Barbados - - -	26,757	28,390	2,494	2,600
United States - - -	147,531	143,153	377,693	545,285

Shipping.

The following is a comparative statement of the tonnage cleared and entered in each of the Presidencies in 1888 and 1889.

Presidency.	1888.	1889.
Antigua.	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
British - - - -	347,245	359,533
Foreign - - - -	19,244	26,431
St. Kitts-Nevis.		
British - - - -	392,480	368,431
Foreign - - - -	18,462	19,717
Dominica.		
British - - - -	272,150	294,862
Foreign - - - -	2,321	1,004
Montserrat.		
British - - - -	311,768	307,417
Foreign - - - -	1,576	1,306
Virgin Islands.		
British - - - -	8,718	8,358
Foreign - - - -	404	148
Total for the Colony { British	1,332,361	1,338,681
Foreign	42,007	48,506
Total - -	1,374,368	1,387,187

10.—HOSPITALS.

In the eight hospitals in the Colony there were, at the end of 1888, 453 patients; 2,423 were admitted during 1889, making a total of 2,876 under treatment. Of these 1,256 were discharged cured, 666 relieved, and 11 not improved. 401, or about one in seven, died, leaving 612 inmates at the end of the year.

The following statement gives the detail for each Presidency :—

Presidency.		Remaining at end of 1888.	Admitted in 1889.	Discharged			Died.	Remaining at end of 1889.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Antigua (1)	Male -	43	516	263	151	—	101	44
	Female	64	496	141	234	—	122	63
St. Kitts (2)	Male -	82	491	233	131	—	69	140
	Female	71	356	173	98	2	34	120
Nevis (1)	Male -	33	53	39	6	2	16	23
	Female	14	38	14	5	—	13	20
Dominica (2)	Male -	47	227	172	19	2	13	68
	Female	27	124	82	12	2	11	44

Presidency.		Remaining at end of 1888.	Admitted in 1889.	Discharged			Died.	Remaining at end of 1889.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Montserrat (1)	Male	26	30	13	3	1	8	31
	Female	32	35	15	4	2	10	36
Virgin Islands (1)	Male	8	17	11	3	—	4	23
	Female	6	40					
Total		453	2,423	1,256	666	11	401	612

11.—LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

The two asylums in Antigua receive patients from all the islands. That at Rat Island contained 56 patients at the end of 1888, admitted 51, and discharged 38, leaving 69 at the end of 1889; of the 38 shown as discharged, 17 died, 12 were sent to the Ridge Asylum as convalescent, and nine were discharged as temporarily cured.

At the Ridge Asylum there were 36 patients at the end of 1888; 12 were received from Rat Island in 1889; 11 were discharged as temporarily cured, and one died, leaving 36 at the end of 1889.

At the Leper Asylum, which forms an adjunct of the Lunatic Asylum at Rat Island, there were 27 inmates at the end of 1888, six were admitted in 1889, four died, and one deserted, leaving 28 at the end of 1889.

I append tables showing the number of patients received into the Lunatic Asylum from each Presidency in 1889 and the cost of maintaining the institutions.

Rat Island.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining at end of 1888	11	17	1	5	9	2	2	5	1	3	24	32
Admitted in 1889	10	12	7	9	2	3	1	3	4	—	24	27
Total	21	29	8	14	11	5	3	8	5	3	48	59
Sent to the Ridge	6	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	8	4
	15	28	8	12	10	5	3	7	4	3	40	55
Discharged	1	3	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	6
	14	25	6	10	10	5	3	6	4	3	37	49
Died	3	5	—	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	6	11
Remaining at end of 1889	11	20	6	8	9	3	2	5	3	2	31	38

Ridge.

	Antigua.		St. Kitts-Nevis.		Dominica.		Montserrat.		Virgin Islands.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Remaining at end of 1888 -	10	14	4	1	4	—	1	1	1	—	20	16
Admitted in 1889 - -	6	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	8	4
Total - - -	16	15	4	3	5	—	1	2	2	—	28	20
Discharged - - -	5	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	7	4
	11	11	4	3	4	—	1	2	1	—	21	16
Died - - - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Remaining at end of 1889 -	10	11	4	3	4	—	1	2	1	—	20	16

Expenses of Maintenance.

	Provisions and Necessaries.	Clothing, Bedding, &c.	Salaries.	Current Repairs.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rat Island - -	740	79	367	24	66	1,276
Ridge - -	438	51	219	11	37	756
Leper - -	266	46	61	—	6	379
Total -	1,444	176	647	35	109	2,411

12.—POOR HOUSES.

In Antigua there were 68 paupers in the poor-house at the end of 1888 (21 male, 47 female); 58 (26 male, 32 female) were admitted during 1889; 65 were discharged and one died, leaving 60 inmates at the end of 1889. The cost of the poor-house was 871*l.* (salaries 170*l.*, provisions, &c. 638*l.*, clothing, &c. 64*l.*).

Outdoor relief was given to 65 males and 201 females, among whom 487*l.* were distributed.

In the Dominica Poor-house there were 98 paupers, at the beginning of 1889; during the year 129 were admitted, making a total of 225 for the year. Of this number 91 were discharged or left relieved and 28 died, leaving 106 paupers on the list at the end of the year.

One of these paupers, a female, has been an inmate of the institution for 30 years.

In the Virgin Islands the hospital serves as a poor-house and contains eight inmates over 70 years of age and four over 80.

13.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS

The table given below shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals in each Presidency during

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the year. From this it will be seen that of the 22,139 offences reported to the police, 21,608 were brought before the magistrates, who dealt summarily with 20,329 of them, 121 cases were disposed of by the superior courts, and 819 were pending at the end of the year.

Of the cases disposed of summarily about three sevenths only were convicted, while there were convictions in seven twelfths of the cases heard in the superior courts.

Of the summary convictions upwards of one quarter were offences against the person, rather more than one eighth were against property and nearly two thirds were miscellaneous cases.

Of the convictions before the superior courts half were for offences against the person and half, with the exception of two cases, were for offences against property.

As compared with 1888 there was a considerable increase in the number of cases brought before the magistrates. In Antigua the increase was 829, in St. Kitts-Nevis 137, in Dominica 6,550, in Montserrat 64. In the Virgin Islands there was no increase. The total increase was 7,580.

—	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Totals.		
1. Offences reported to the police - -	6,347	5,617	9,562	613	—	22,139		
2. Apprehended by the police or summoned before magistrates -	6,278	5,558	8,991	610	171	21,608		
3. Summary convictions:								
1. Offences against the person -	880	637	275	89	28	1,909		
2. Prædial larceny -	91	108	49	31	5	284		
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny. - -	214	440	140	54	14	862		
4. Other offences -	1,421	1,554	2,719	106	39	5,839		
							8,894	
4. Convictions in the superior courts:								
1. Offences against the person -	13	16	4	—	—	33		
2. Prædial larceny -	—	4	—	—	—	4		
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	12	8	3	1	2	26		
4. Other offences -	2	—	—	—	—	2		
							65	8,959
5. Persons acquitted:								
1. In the inferior courts - -	3,173	2,779	5,090	318	74	11,435		
2. In the superior courts - -	24	12	18	1		56		
								11,491
6. Cases pending—								
1. In the inferior courts:	—	79	693	7	6	785		
2. In the superior courts:	16	13	—	3	2	34		
								819
								21,269

14.—GAOLS.

The Colony has six common gaols and to these were committed 1,845 persons, 1,079 men, 712 women, and 54 juveniles; 1,699 underwent penal imprisonment; 241 had been once previously convicted, 213 twice, and 426 thrice or more. Only three men were sentenced to five years or more, while 1,205 were sentenced to three months or less.

There were no escapes from any of the gaols. There was one death in the Antigua gaol and there were two in the St. Kitts gaol.

The punishments numbered 208, of which 146 took place in Antigua, where all prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment or more are confined.

There was only one case of flogging, and this was at Antigua.

The total annual cost of the six gaols is given as 4,307*l.*

15.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The figures in the annexed table are taken from the register kept at the public library in Antigua and are only approximately correct.

The hottest months were July and August and the coldest February and December, but owing to the absence of maximum and minimum thermometer the highest and lowest temperatures are not known.

The highest barometrical reading recorded was 30·22 inches on January 30th–31st and the lowest 29·66 inches on September 2nd at 5 p.m. (it probably was a little lower at 8 p.m.)

This low barometer occurred at the time that a storm was passing, which, later, developed full hurricane force.

From the data obtained it would appear that this hurricane originated about 400 miles east of Martinique, the centre passing between Antigua and Guadeloupe, probably crossing Montserrat, thence to St. Kitts, increasing in energy as it progressed.

It passed S.W. of St. Thomas and on September 4th was in latitude 20° N. and raged as a storm of great intensity off Cape Hatteras and Boston from September 8th to 14th.

In St. Kitts the s.s. "Roraima" went ashore and became a total wreck, and the schooner "Circe" (three-masted iron vessel) went down at anchor. No lives were lost.

The rainfall for the year is recorded as 89·06 inches, but the average of 50 stations was 73·59 inches; this being greatly in

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

excess of the average, as will be seen by reference to the table given below :—

1889.	Thermometer.		Barometer.		Rainfall.
	Dry 9 a.m.	3 p.m.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	
January - -	79	82	30·11	30·11	2·83
February - -	79	80	30·14	30·11	5·36
March - - -	80	82	30·13	30·15	4·03
April - - -	82	82½	30·13	30·12	8·27
May - - -	81½	82½	30·12	30·11	12·29
June - - -	81	78	30·13	30·15	17·51
July - - -	86	87½	30.13	30·14	4·18
August - -	86	87	30·11	30·12	7·08
September - -	81	82½	30·10	30·12	3·71
October - -	83	83	30·09	30·10	6·01
November - -	80	84	30·12	30·08	4·56
December - -	77	79	30·07	29·93	3·23
					89·06

Average Rainfall in Antigua since 1874.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Inches.
1874 - - - -	41	31·16
1875 - - - -	40	28·78
1876 - - - -	36	41·98
1877 - - - -	38	49·05
1878 - - -	53	47·11
1879 - - - -	52	61·50
1880 - - -	46	49·69
1881 - - - -	44	53·75
1882 - - - -	45	33·04
1883 - - - -	56	55·51
1884 - - - -	56	43 98
1885 - - - -	53	43·39
1886 - - - -	55	47·78
1887 - - - -	50	43·68
1888 - - - -	47	44·23
1889 - - - -	50	73·59

16.—SAVINGS BANKS.

The sum of 55,694*l.* remained in the five savings banks of the Colony at the end of 1889 as against a sum of 50,074*l.* at the end of 1888. The number of depositors increased from 1,558 to 1,740 and the amount invested from 41,536*l.* to 46,386*l.*

I append tables giving the detail of the deposits in each bank :—

Presidency.	No. of Depositors.		Amount of Deposits.		Amount invested.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
			£	£	£	£
Antigua - - - -	1,050	1,163	35,349	38,995	27,533	30,297
St. Kitts - - - -	235	260	6,083	6,800	5,995	6,595
Nevis - - - -	65	70	2,719	3,120	2,650	3,063
Dominica - - - -	130	155	3,376	4,077	3,150	3,950
Montserrat - - -	78	92	2,547	2,702	2,208	2,481
Virgin Islands - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	1,558	1,740	50,074	55,694	41,536	46,386

Presidency.	Under 1*l.*		1*l.* to 10*l.*		10*l.* to 20*l.*		20*l.* to 50*l.*		50*l.* to 100*l.*		Over 100*l.*	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Antigua -	294	329	419	465	123	111	85	104	52	56	83	98
St. Kitts -	41	38	80	107	38	36	30	38	17	11	23	30
Nevis - -	6	4	20	21	11	10	10	12	4	9	14	14
Dominica -	11	23	53	64	24	19	20	26	12	9	10	14
Montserrat -	16	18	28	39	9	9	7	10	6	3	12	13
Virgin Islands -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total -	368	412	600	696	205	185	152	190	91	88	142	169

FRED. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary of the
Leeward Islands.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 88, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1891.



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1891.

[C.–6269.–1.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
69	Trinidad (Tobago)	1888
70	Basutoland	1888–9
71	British Honduras	1888
72	British Guiana	,,
73	Western Australia	,,
74	Gold Coast	,,
75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–9
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889

No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 88, Old Series.)

Sir C. C. LEES to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
December 9, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying copy of a report upon the Blue Book for 1889 by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

COLONIAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNOR.

Port Louis,
December 2, 1890.

SIR,

I BEG to forward to you for transmission to the Secretary of State a short report on the Blue Book for 1889.

Revenue.

2. The revenue, which was estimated at Rs. 7,280 803, realised Rs. 8,744,864 or Rs. 1,464,061 more than had been anticipated, and Rs. 170,806 more than in 1888.

3. This increase is mainly due to the transport of sugar by rail, the receipts of the railway showing a surplus of Rs. 267,444 over those of 1888, and indicating a remunerative cane crop, the export having been 11,716,916 kilos. more than in the preceding year.

Expenditure.

4. The expenditure of 1889 was heavy. It was only Rs. 13,984 below the total receipts, and was as much as Rs. 788.695 in excess of the expenditure of 1888.

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MAURITIUS.

5. During the five years which end with the year 1889, large sums have figured in the expenditure of the Colony which do not properly come under its ordinary expenditure, such as moneys spent on re-afforestation, defence works, the Mare aux Vacoas, and sundry purchases of public utility.

6. If these, amounting for five years to a total of Rs. 1,197,390, be deducted from the total deficits in the five years amounting to Rs. 2,381,630 you will notice that the expenditure has yearly exceeded the revenue by Rs. 236,848.

7. It will be necessary to remedy this state of things, but taking the last figure to be the average expenditure for five years inclusive of 1889, the balance of revenue in 1889 being even so small as Rs. 13,984, shows how much this Island is dependent on its main resource, namely, the sugar cane.

8. A good crop and fair prices at once go to swell the revenue in such items as transport and export dues, while the budget of the following year can depend on larger imports.

9. Thus the year 1888 was not so good a cane year as 1889, and the decrease in shipping in 1889 was 29 inwards and 8 outwards, while a general increase of 5 per cent. on customs duties whether fixed or ad valorem, with the exception of rice, flour, and salt fish, only gave an increase of about Rs. 270,000 over the year 1888.

Imports.

10. The imports for the last three years, exclusive of specie and bullion, have been valued as follows :—

	Rs.
1887 - - - -	23,434,100
1888 - - - -	15,341,202
1889 - - - -	15,612,056

Exports.

While the exports for the corresponding years have been valued at :—

	Rs.
1887 - - - -	25,998,086
1888 - - - -	32,201,978
1889 - - - -	32,806,815

11. The decrease in shipping which will be noticeable in the following table, is attributable mainly to the fact that the smaller vessels are giving way to the steamers of larger tonnage, and that sailing vessels are decreasing in number.

Shipping.

12. Thus in 1889 the increase in tonnage over 1888 has been 22,362, and the decrease in the number of ships 37.

——	Inwards.	Outwards.	Ships, both In and Out.
	Tons.	Tons.	Ships.
1888 -	314,432	307,912	914
1889 -	336,794	329,245	877

Population.

13. The estimated population for 1889 was on the 31st of December 372,664, being an increase of 3,362 over that of 1888 at the same date, of which the Indians number 254,465 against 118,199 of the general population.

Birth and Death Rate.

14. The births throughout the Colony exceeded the deaths by 1,134, which is 793 less than in 1888, while the number of deaths exceeded those of 1888 by 1,374; but if the death-rate exceeded that of 1888 by 3·4, the birth rate exceeded that of 1888 by 1·3.

15. The continued high death-rate of the Colony is now particularly arresting attention, and, it is hoped, will in a short time show an amelioration by the practical measures which a competent authority will advise and carry out.

Immigration.

16. 3,814 immigrants more than in 1888 were introduced into the Colony at an increased cost of Rs. 7·37 per male statute adult, and the total number of immigrants introduced was 4,527 during the year.

17. The table in the summary showing the number of coolies who have left the Colony during the last few years is very suggestive of the growing dislike of the Indian population to leave Mauritius after their term of contract is at an end. Thus the emigration in 1885 was 4,001, and dwindled in 1889 to 1,319.

Poor Relief.

18. The admissions into hospital or asylum were 10,065 as against 8,791 in 1888, and the paupers at the charge of Government were 1,514 against 1,414 in the previous year, the excess of cost of maintenance for 1889, being Rs. 14,767.

19. You will, however, notice that there was a slight decrease of admissions to the leper asylum and to the lunatic asylum as compared with 1888.

Education.

20. A decrease of 319 scholars on roll in 1889 is not a healthy sign, nor is the decrease of 457 in the average attendance of scholars, or the falling off by 47 in the number of pupils at the Royal College or Royal College schools.

21. It is to be hoped that when the commission of inquiry has finished its labours this state of things will be changed.

Judicial Department.

22. The judicial department appears to show an improvement over 1888. There were 306 offences less than in 1888 reported to the police or to the magistrates; 1,160 convictions less than the previous year, and 565 less admissions to the gaol, but it must be borne in mind that the revelations which caused the inquiry into the police force had demoralised that body for the time, and that the above improvement is scarcely, under the circumstances, a reliable factor in the appreciation of the morality of the people.

Forests and Crown Lands.

23. In order to obtain Rs. 67,338 for sales and leases of forests and crown lands, a sum of Rs. 108,284 was expended, which is however a very slight improvement on 1888, when, to obtain Rs. 57,522.01 the expenditure, exclusive of disbursements for purchase of land, was Rs. 102,488.

Railways, Post Office, and Telegraphs.

24. The railway receipts which in 1888 were Rs. 1,533,769 realised Rs. 1,801,213 in 1889, or an increase of Rs. 267,444, and the post office and telegraphs also showed a small increase of Rs. 7,109.

25. From these remarks your Excellency will see that, though no striking comparison can be established between the year under notice and its predecessor, still certain facts are becoming more noticeable and call for attention with a view to further legislation.

Establishments.

26. The yearly heavy charge for establishment is no doubt inherent to the great distance of this Colony from the larger centres of activity which might otherwise attract and give occupation to its inhabitants, but the increased charges upon the public charity caused by the large Indian population of this island who practically do not contribute to the revenue is matter for earnest consideration.

27. The change in the nature of the shipping which must eventually require the deepening of the harbour to meet the requirements of heavier tonnage is becoming a matter of necessity which the year 1889 has made clear.

28. In the same way the continued high death-rate has revealed the necessity in the interest of the Colony of attacking the problem of sanitation in a more practical manner than hitherto; and in conclusion I must add, that, if the comparison between 1889 and 1888 as indicated by the figures in the Blue Book does not reveal much change, there is no doubt in my mind that it suggests the urgency of remedial legislation and of adherence to sounder economical principles.

Legislation.

The legislation of 1889 does not call for much notice, except the Ordinance No. 9 to make further provision for preventing the pollution of rivers and streams which is likely to do good in a matter of great necessity if strictly enforced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 6.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889-1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 103, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
April 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.-5.]

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75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
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117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,

No. 6.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 103, Old Series.]

Sir H. W. Norman (Queensland) to Lord Knutsford.

Government House, Brisbane,
November 12, 1890.

My Lord,

I do myself the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, six printed copies of a Despatch, dated the 15th October 1890, from his Honour Sir William MacGregor, submitting the annual report of British New Guinea for the year which ended on the 30th June last.

2. I received the Despatch on the 3rd instant, and at once forwarded it to the Chief Secretary of Queensland for such observations as he might desire to offer on behalf of the Government of this Colony. I enclose copy of a reply from Sir Samuel Griffith dated the 8th instant.

3. I cordially concur with the remarks of the Chief Secretary with respect to the extent and value of the labours of Sir William MacGregor, and I join in his regret that the health of Sir William should have suffered, and agree that the work of the Administrator in preparing vocabularies of some of the native dialects is very useful. I trust that the expectation of Sir Samuel Griffith may be realised, that before the expiration of the period for which the cost of the administration is guaranteed the Possession will be self-supporting, but I am not sanguine that the anticipation of the Chief Secretary that there will be some increase in the revenue during the present year will prove correct.

Legislation.

4. All the Ordinances enumerated in the Report as having been passed during the year have already come under your Lordship's observation, and no remark from me is now needed with respect to them.

Administration of Justice.

5. The work of the Courts has been light, but it is to be borne in mind that as yet our influence does not extend over extensive areas or enable all crime that takes place in British New Guinea to be dealt with by our tribunals.

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BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Tours of Inspection.

6. The account of administrative visits of inspection given in paragraphs 18 to 31 of the Report is interesting, but separate reports of all the more important tours, as given in Appendices A. to N., have already been forwarded separately to your Lordship.

7. No observations seem called for on my part with respect to the heads "Government Property" and "Establishment," except to express my regret that there are still many cases of fever among the officers and employés of the Government, and that a valued native who was in charge of a district should have died of it. It appears that the death of Mr. George Hunter, Government Agent in the Rigo District, which was at first attributed to an attack of fever, was really due to foul play, and the murderers have been arrested and sentenced to death. In the death of Mr. Hunter the public service in British New Guinea has lost a valuable officer.

Trade.

8. The value of the imports into the Possession shows a considerable increase over the previous year, close upon 5,000*l.*, mainly in food stuffs, building materials, and miscellaneous articles. The return of exports is no doubt defective, especially as respects gold, but on the whole there is an increase of more than 500*l.*

Mission Work.

9. The mission of the London Society has as usual been working with zeal and some success, and the Roman Catholic Mission has been also doing good work under various difficulties and discouragements. It is gratifying to know that work is being commenced by the Church of England and the Wesleyan Church, and that they are able to take up spheres of labour that will in no way interfere with the ground occupied by the two missions first mentioned.

Land.

10. Notwithstanding the extensive tours of inspection accomplished by the Administrator up to the present time the area of land discovered suitable for European settlement seems very limited. It is to be hoped that more may hereafter be found, and the Ordinances passed with respect to land will, if suitable areas are available, enable the Administrator to encourage European enterprise without infringing upon the just rights of the natives. Until some European settlement takes place it is almost

hopeless to expect that trade will be so developed as to make the Possession self-supporting.

Revenue and Finance.

11. It will be seen that there is a small increase in the revenue due to Customs receipts, and that the total receipts from all other sources this year only reach the insignificant amount of 122*l.* As the Customs receipts are almost entirely obtained from the Government officials, who are certainly not overpaid, from the missionaries, and from the gold-seekers, who earn a very precarious livelihood, it cannot be deemed satisfactory that almost the whole revenue is obtained in this manner, and even this source is uncertain, for a falling off in the number of gold-seekers will, it is expected, lead to a smaller revenue in the present year than in the last. The expenditure is of course much larger this year than it was last year, for in 1888–89 there were only 10 months of expenditure to provide for. The outlay it will be seen was just within the amount contributed by New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, and 642*l.* 14*s.* in addition was expended on exploration purposes out of a sum at credit of the late Protectorate account, which has been allowed by the contributing Colonies to be expended in this manner by the Administrator.

12. I have already drawn your Lordship's attention to the heavy cost of maintenance of the steamer "Merrie England" as compared with the resources of the Possession, or with any resources that are likely to be available for many years to come, and notwithstanding the increase of the grant by the Imperial Government from 3,500*l.* to 5,000*l.* a year it would have been impossible to maintain the vessel if the contributing Colonies had not liberally allowed 2,000*l.* a year more to be spent out of the revenue. Your Lordship will observe that Sir W. MacGregor expresses his hope in paragraph 50 that the unexpended balance on the steamer purchase account should be made available for the purchase of a vessel or vessels suitable permanently for the use of the Administrator in the western part of the Possession. Sir William MacGregor has not as yet made any definite proposal in this matter, but any additional vessels would no doubt lead to additional expenditure, which on account of the "Merrie England" and other vessels and boats now amounts to about 9,564*l.* a year.

Native Dialects.

13. The work performed in the preparation of vocabularies has already been referred to in the second paragraph of this Despatch, and while to Sir William MacGregor it must be attributed to a great extent that difficulties have been overcome in this matter, great credit is due to those gentlemen who are named in paragraphs 54 to 57 of the Report.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Scientific Results.

14. The scientific results during the year, if not very extensive, are interesting and valuable.

General.

15. Your Lordship will no doubt appreciate the good work performed by the various officers of the Government who are named in paragraphs 59 and 60, and I feel that I ought to remind your Lordship that this work is performed in a very unhealthy climate, with great difficulty in procuring nourishing and agreeable diet, and where there is a great absence of civilised society or of means of recreation.

16. The great assistance always willingly rendered by the Ministers and officers of Queensland has been repeatedly brought to your Lordship's notice, and is always heartily acknowledged by Sir William MacGregor.

17. Your Lordship will be pleased to learn from the sixty-first paragraph of the Report that some little progress has been made in increasing the authority of some of the leading men among the tribes and in putting on them some responsibility towards the Government, and we may hope that a policy of this kind will be steadily developed and encouraged.

18. I think that after perusing this report your Lordship will agree with me in thinking that satisfactory progress has been made in the administration of the Possession during the year, and that we may look forward to still more satisfactory results if the health of the Administrator admits of his continuing his valuable labours.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) H. W. NORMAN.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
November 8, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt from your Excellency of the annual Report of the Administrator of British New Guinea for the year ending on 30th June last, which I have read with great interest, and which I beg to return herewith.

I do not offer any observations upon the various Ordinances referred to in the Report, with the provisions of which I have not had time to make myself fully acquainted.

The previous reputation of Sir W. MacGregor had caused somewhat large expectations to be formed as to the work which he would be able to accomplish in British New Guinea, but I do

not hesitate to express the opinion that the extent of his multifarious labours during the year, as described in the Report, is even more than could have been reasonably expected by anyone.

I regret very much that Sir William MacGregor's health has been affected by the fever contracted in the prosecution of his visits of inspection, which have, however, already resulted in the recognition of British influence over a large area of the Possession and in laying the foundation of the establishment of such civilisation as is at present practicable or useful amongst the Papuans.

I anticipate some increase in the revenue of the Possession during the present year from various sources, and am disposed to think that there are already reasons for believing that before the expiration of the period of 10 years during which the cost of the administration is guaranteed by New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland the Possession will be self-supporting.

The labours of Sir William MacGregor in respect of the collection and reduction to writing of some of the native dialects appear to be very valuable, and I look forward to the accomplishment of much more work of the same kind, and of an equally valuable nature, if British New Guinea is fortunate enough to retain his services for two or three years longer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. W. GRIFFITH.

His Excellency

Sir Henry W. Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E.,

&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT on BRITISH NEW GUINEA from 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890, with APPENDICES.

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† *See* pp. 294–297 of [C.—5883], August 1889.

SIR, Brisbane, October 15, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to present the Annual Report required by Paragraph XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions. This Report is for the year ending on the 30th June 1890. The order of arrangement of the different matters dealt ith herein, is as nearly as practicable, the same as that followed in last year's Report.

Legislation.

2. Eleven Ordinances were considered and passed by the Legislative Council during the year. The first of these, marked in the series of the laws of the Possession as Ordinance No. IV. of 1889, appropriates 15,000*l.* to the services of the Administration for the year. Of this sum 3,300*l.* is for the Civil List, which is reserved to Her Majesty by the Letters Patent; 2,725*l.* for other salaries, 2,350*l.* for boats and vessels, and 6,625*l.* for miscellaneous charges.

3. Ordinance No. V. of 1889 provides for the regulation of prisons. Buildings and premises to be used as prisons are proclaimed as such by the Administrator in Council by proclamation in the "Government Gazette." By a like formality any prison may be closed. Any specified area round a prison may be made a penal district by proclamation, inside of which prisoners can be dealt with as if in prison. The Chief Magistrate and all Resident Magistrates are, and Justices of the Peace may be appointed to be, Visiting Justices. The duties of prison officers, the classification of prisoners, the treatment of prisoners, and punishment for prison offences are regulated by Prison Rules, which form part of the Ordinance.

4. Ordinance No. VI. of 1889 was passed to adopt certain laws as Laws of British New Guinea. By Ordinance No. IV. of 1888 all Laws, Acts, and Statutes then in force in Queensland were adopted as the Laws and Ordinances of British New Guinea as far as the same were applicable and not repugnant to the constitution of the Possession. Certain classes of Acts were, however, specifically exempted. This system left it often difficult—sometimes impossible—to determine whether a given law was in force in the Possession or not. Ordinance No. VI. of 1889 specifies in schedule form, set out by number and title, the Acts and Statutes of Queensland that are adopted as Ordinances of British New Guinea. It also defines to what extent the Acts, Statutes, and Laws of England are adopted as the Laws of the Possession.

5. Ordinance No. VII. of 1889 appropriated the sum of 2,452*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* to the service of the year ending 30th June 1889. Of this sum 1,530*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* was to supplement sums found insufficient under the appropriations of Ordinance No. IV. of 1889, while 921*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* was for services unprovided for in the estimates of expenditure for the year.

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6. Ordinance No. VIII. of 1889 was passed by direction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to make it more clear than was done by Ordinance No. II. of 1888 that there was nothing in the said Ordinance to prevent the Administrator from acquiring land on behalf of the Crown, to be held as Crown lands.

7. Ordinance No. IX. of 1889 provides for the better regulation of native affairs. Under this measure a Board is constituted, to consist of at least two members of the Legislative Council, besides the Administrator, with other members to be named by him. It is the duty of members of the Board to advise the Administrator, when called upon so to do, on any question relating to the good government or well-being of the native population. The Board makes regulations affecting the native population exclusively, in respect of certain matters specified in the Ordinance, such as the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of native courts, the observance of native customs, and generally on matters bearing on or affecting the welfare of the native population. Magistrates for native matters may be appointed by the Administrator, and these may be natives or others. The practice, procedure, and jurisdiction of these courts are to be defined by regulations. Native District Courts can be created, to consist of not less than one European magistrate and two magistrates for native matters. The practice, procedure, and jurisdiction of these courts, also an Appellate and Controlling Jurisdiction over Native Magistrates' Courts, are to be defined and specified by regulation. The Administrator in Council can constitute the Central Court an Appellate and Controlling Court over the Native Magistrates Courts and over the Native District Courts. The regulations of the Board require the sanction of the Legislative Council, and are subject to the disallowance of Her Majesty.

8. Ordinance No. X. of 1889 regulates the issue of Crown grants. It enables the Administrator in Council to grant any Crown lands in fee simple. It is left absolutely in the discretion of the same authority to grant or to refuse to grant any land acquired from the native owners prior to the 4th day of September 1888. The form of grant, and any reservations and conditions attached to the same, are determined by the Administrator in Council. All gold and silver in or under the land is reserved to the Crown. No land, unless it is an island, can be granted in fee simple until it has been surveyed by a licensed surveyor. Survey fees are paid by the grantee, and their amount is fixed by the Administrator in Council. Crown grants are issued in duplicate, and the fees payable thereon are fixed by the Ordinance. The recovery of fees by the Crown is provided for by the same law.

9. Ordinance No. XI. of 1889 adopts "The Real Property Act of 1861," and "The Real Property Act of 1877," of Queensland as the Law of the Possession of British New Guinea. All lands in the territory unalienated from the Crown on the 16th November 1889, the date of the passing of the Ordinance, are made

subject to its provisions. To the Registrar-General are deputed the powers of the master of titles, created by the 1861 Act, and notices of process may be served on the same officer so long as there is not an Attorney General or an analogous officer in the Possession.

10. Ordinance No. I. of 1890 provides for an armed constabulary. The number of the force must not exceed that fixed by the Legislative Council from time to time by resolution. Salaries and allowances to members of the force are subject to confirmation by the same Council. The Administrator in Council may make rules and regulations for the government and discipline of the force. These have to be laid before the Legislative Council, and are subject to disallowance by Her Majesty. Members of the force are bound to perform within the Possession all the duties and functions that police officers and constables in the Colony of Queensland are, as such, bound to perform in that Colony. They are also to execute any process and serve any summons or warrant sent to them for that purpose by any Court of the Possession.

The members of the force have, in the discharge of their duty, the protection and indemnities secured to any constable or police officer in Queensland by the law of that Colony. If the numbers of the force are not filled up by voluntary engagement natives of the Possession of sound bodily constitution, between 17 and 40 years of age, and unmarried, are liable to be enrolled. Members of the force are enrolled for not more than three years nor less than one year. The Ordinance deals also with desertion, breaches of discipline, and prescribes how offences are to be tried.

11. Ordinance No. II. of 1890 appropriates on the basis of "The Appropriation Ordinance of 1889" the sum of 3,750*l.*, being supplies for the first quarter of the financial year 1890–91.

12. Ordinance No. III. of 1890 amends "The Small Debts Act of 1867" (Queensland adopted). This law extends the ordinary jurisdiction of the Court from actions involving a sum not exceeding 30*l.* to cases in which the sum sued for does not exceed 50*l.*; and in cases in which the party intending to be sued consents in writing the maximum jurisdiction is raised from 50*l.* to 70*l.* The maximum sum that can be dealt with by the court in cases of disputes between parties is raised from 20*l.* to 30*l.* Court fees and witnesses' expenses are also fixed by the Ordinance. The Court is further given power to have any words or figures spoken or written translated into English, or from English into any other language. It rests with the Court to determine whether any interpretation or translation shall be accepted. The cost of interpretation or translation is borne in the first instance by the person suing.

13. "The Court and Laws Adopting Ordinance of 1888" empowers the Chief Magistrate to make, from time to time, Rules of Court for the conduct of business in the Central Court. These Rules have validity when approved by the Legislative Council,

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and when published in the "Government Gazette." A code of Rules in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance "for Regulating Civil Procedure" has been prepared by the Chief Magistrate, and was published in the "Government Gazette" of 23rd November 1889.

14. "The British New Guinea Order in Council of 1888," which provides an appeal in certain civil cases from the Courts of the Possession to the Supreme Court of Queensland, directs that such appeals shall be brought subject to any Rules of Procedure made by that Court. Rules for appeals in civil matters from British New Guinea were accordingly made by the Court and came into operation on the 6th May, and were published in the "Government Gazette" of the Possession on the 28th June 1890.

On the 6th November 1889 the same Court made Rules entitled "The Rules of the Supreme Court (Crown Side—British New Guinea Appeals), 1888." These were published in the "Government Gazette" of the Possession on the 23rd March 1889.

Administration of Justice.

15. An addition of two Courts of Petty Sessions was made to the Judicial Department during the year, so that this branch consists of:—The Central Court, seat at Port Moresby; a Court of Petty Sessions for the Central Division, located at Port Moresby, with a jurisdiction extending over the part of the Possession that lies between the 145th and the 148th degrees of east longitude; a similar Court at the Government Station of Mabadauan, established on the 16th day of November 1889, for the part of the Possession that lies west of the 145th degree of east longitude; a like Court with jurisdiction extending over all the part of the Possession that lies east of the 148th degree of east longitude. This last Court has its head-quarters at Samarai; but an Assistant Resident Magistrate for the division, having his head-quarters at Misima (St. Aignan) was appointed 24th September 1889. This officer is also warden for the Louisiade Gold Field.

16. It will be seen from the tables of cases dealt with by the Central Court that in its criminal jurisdiction 12 sentences of capital punishment were pronounced. The crime in each case was the murder of a native by a native, and in no instance was the sentence carried out. In six of these cases the prisoner had killed a person found stealing in his garden. In three of these instances the victim belonged to the same tribe as the murderer. In one of the six death was caused by strangulation. A man found a native stealing his food, and tied him up against a tree by a cord put round his neck so tightly that strangulation ensued. It is not contrary to Papuan custom to murder the thief under such circumstances, and these murders were committed at a time when food was very scarce. In three of the 12 cases retaliatory murders were committed to revenge or pay for two of the six

murders arising from theft. This was formerly required by the custom of the country. Two cases were for the murder of an illegitimate child. It was, at least, not unusual to destroy such children in former times. One was an intertribal murder, the last, it may be hoped, of a long series of slaughters and massacres between the two neighbouring septs.

17. The most remarkable case that came under the Indictable Offences Jurisdiction of the lower courts was that of a European who accused himself of shooting three natives. After much inquiry, carried out at considerable expense, the determination arrived at was that there was no truth in the allegation. It will be observed that under the Summary Offences Jurisdiction there was one conviction each of supplying arms, explosives, and liquor to natives. The following table of court cases has kindly been prepared by Mr. Winter, Chief Judicial Officer:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1890.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Business.

Number of Persons Committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
19	Central District - -	3 committals quashed.
3	Eastern District - -	1 died whilst under committal.
		17 tried.
		1 awaiting trial.
Total - 22		

The Court held Nine Criminal Sessions at the Places and Times, and with the Results under-mentioned:—

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		PORT MORESBY—26th July 1889.	
2	Murder - -	- | 1 guilty, 1 acquitted	- | 1 death.
		PORT MORESBY—3rd October 1889.	
2	Murder - -	- | 2 guilty - -	- | 2 death.
		PORT MORESBY—22nd October 1889.	
3	Murder - -	- | 3 guilty - -	- | 3 death.
		PORT MORESBY—10th December 1889.	
1	Murder - -	- | 1 guilty - -	- | 1 death.

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		PORT MORESBY—9th January 1890.	
2	Murder	1 guilty, 1 acquitted	1 death.
		PORT MORESBY—10th February 1890.	
2	Murder	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty manslaughter.	1 death, 1 imprisonment till 6 p.m. day of trial.
		PORT MORESBY—21st March 1890.	
2	Murder	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty manslaughter.	1 death, 1 imprisonment for 3 months, with hard labour.
		PORT MORESBY—25th April 1890.	
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
		PORT MORESBY—30th April 1890.	
2	Murder	1 guilty, 1 acquitted	1 death.
Total 17			

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings.	Amount involved.	Result.
		£ s. d.	
1	Action for goods sold and money lent.	153 9 3	Settled out of court.
1	Application for administration.	—	Granted.
Total 2			

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central district	26	26 murder	19 committed for trial. 3 dismissed. 1 remanded to Eastern district. 3 under remand.
Eastern district	6	6 murder	3 committal for trial. 2 dismissed. 1 under remand.
Western district	0		
	Total 32		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central district -	14	Larceny - - - -	10 convicted, 4 dismissed.
	2	Breach of Customs Ordinance	2 convicted.
	1	Resisting constables in the discharge of their duty.	D missed.
	1	Offence by servant, under Master and Servants Ordinance.	Convicted.
	4	Desertion of seamen from ship	Convicted.
	1	Neglecting child - -	Dismissed.
	1	Assault - - - -	Convicted.
	1	Wilful destruction of property	Convicted.
Eastern district -	2	Assault - - - -	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
	2	Larceny - - - -	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
	1	Supplying arms to natives -	Convicted.
	1	Supplying explosives to natives.	Convicted.
	1	Supplying liquor to natives -	Convicted.
	1	Wilful destruction of property	Convicted.
Western district -	0		
	Total 33		

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions tried.	Amount involved.	Result of Action.
		£ s. d.	
Central district - - -	1	14 18 4	Settled out of court.
Eastern district - - -	3	63 11 3	1 settled out of court.
			2 plaintiff nonsuited.
Western district - -	0	—	
	Total 4	78 9 7	

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court - - - - - - - -	22
In Lower Courts (exclusive of the 22 that went up to Central Court) - - - - - - - -	43
In all Courts - - - - - - - -	65

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court - - - - - - -	2
In lower Courts - - - - - - -	4
In all Courts - - - - - - - -	6

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Administrative Visits of Inspection.

18. *Visit to Misima and Tagula.*—Early in July, 1889, a visit of inspection was made to the islands of Misima (St. Aignan) and Tagula (Sudest). There were then about 400 miners at work on Misima, divided into many parties and scattered over the island; there were about 300 on Tagula. There were several stores on each island at which goods could be purchased at a reasonable price. On either island it seemed to take hard work, even if well directed, to obtain 2 dwt. of gold a day. The natives and the miners were found to be on friendly terms, and a very high opinion was formed as to the character of the latter generally for industry, sobriety, and respect for law and order. A full account of this visit is given in the despatch which forms Appendix A. hereto.*

Aroma.—In returning from the east end of the Possession, from inspecting Misima, Tagula, Samarai, &c., a visit was paid to the important district of Aroma, the people of which had been reported as using threatening language in respect of the Government. The result of this inspection is given more in detail in Appendix B.†

19. *Cloudy Bay.*—As it had been reported at Port Moresby that two Europeans had been murdered by natives at Cloudy Bay, and that there was much excitement among the tribes all along the coast in that part of the country, as they were speculating on what action the Government would take, it was decided to visit the district with a strong party sufficient to assert the authority of the Government. Interpreters were obtained at Aroma, and the eldest son of Koapena, the great Aroma chief, joined the party. Domara, a coast village of Cloudy Bay, was reached on the 1st October, but the inhabitants had all fled. The alleged murderers were the people of Merani and Isimari villages, a few miles from the coast by river. On our approach they fled, and our party occupied the village of Merani, which was fortified by three houses and a high and strong palisade. In a few hours many of the inhabitants came within calling distance, and told our interpreters that they had killed the two white men. They would not entertain any proposal to deliver up the actual murderers. After much trouble the Domara tribe were found in the bush on another river some miles further along the coast, and they were induced to give information and assistance to the Government and to return to their homes. The Merani people became confident in consequence of this delay in obtaining complete and reliable information; they came up to the palisade and threw stones and spears inside it; they tried to surround our people when they went out of the village, and were eager to engage in hostilities.

The whole tribe had camped near to the village, and showed in every way that they did not doubt that they could set the Government at defiance, and that they would attack on the first

* See No. 2 in [C. 6323], April 1891.
† See No. 3 in [C. 6323], April 1891.

opportunity. Matters had thus reached a crisis on the afternoon of the 4th October, when a number of our party returned to Merani, after having arranged matters with the Domara tribe. Fourteen Europeans and two Papuans left the village to look for the native camp in the forest, and, if possible, to arrest some of the murderers. The camp was soon found, in good cover, and containing apparently several hundred natives; they had probably been joined by some neighbouring kindred people. An outpost of a score of young men, when surprised, fell back unmolested on the main camp. The warriors came to face us, keeping well under cover, and trying to surround us. Our party was kept in line in a piece of cleared ground about a couple of hundred yards from the native camp; a good position for defence, as a man could barely get within spear-throw without being seen, but a position from which nothing could be done unless the natives attacked. Taking up this ground also gave time to the women and children to get away, and seemed to have the effect of emboldening the assailants. Not a shot was fired until the foremost of the aggressors were almost near enough to throw their spears with effect, on which the word was given to fire on them. In two or three minutes they were driven back into the forest, when they fled in several parties in different directions.

It appeared, from information obtained subsequently, that two men were killed on the spot, four died of their wounds soon after, and several others received severe injuries. The defeat of the tribe was crushing. Shortly afterwards the leading actor in the murders was secured with an accomplice. He was identified by the Domu, Domara, and Merani people. The leading men of Merani with some of their women met us at Domara, brought thither by the chief of Domu. The re-settlement of the tribe was greatly interfered with by the unfortunate escape of one of the prisoners, who was, however, captured almost immediately by the Domara men. Nearly all the neighbouring tribes were visited, many of the chiefs making a return visit to the Government quarters at Domara. The country about Merani was found to be exceedingly fertile, but the whole district seemed to be extremely unhealthy. Including Papuans, Polynesians, and Europeans, in all 25 men landed in Cloudy Bay in connexion with this visit, and of these 24 contracted fever there, 23 of them on the spot and one a day or two after leaving it. The details of these proceedings will be found in Appendices C. and D. hereto,* respectively. An intelligent and experienced Polynesian, who was a good linguist, and could read and write, was left at Cloudy Bay to represent the Government; but, most unfortunately, he died of fever a few months afterwards. The two prisoners were safely lodged in Port Moresby gaol, where the principal one died, apparently of enteritis, produced by eating the fermenting sago brought from the west, which is a favourite article of diet with natives, and was given to the prisoners as a change of food. In the case of the second one,

* See Enclosures in Nos. 42 and 45 in [C. 6323], April 1891.

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a *nolle prosequi* was entered, and he was discharged, because suffering from a severe form of leprosy.

20. On the 21st November a party arrived in the s.s. "Merrie England" at the mouth of the Fly River to inspect that district. The first thing done was to make a tolerably complete examination of Kiwai Island, which, with the exception of Daumori, is the only island in the Fly frith that is permanently inhabited. Kiwai is about 36 miles long and about 2½ miles broad, with a population of about 5,000. No part of it is more than a very few feet above, and a considerable portion of it hardly as high as, the mark of full spring tides. It is all covered by wood. The sea and river seem to be encroaching on the island nearly all round it. Houses are generally from 150 to 200 feet long, and are occupied each by a large number of families. The people live mainly by agriculture, but they present an interesting transition between people of fixed location, who are surrounded by independent tribes whose territory cannot be crossed with impunity, and tribes that are nomadic in habit in sparsely peopled districts. Kiwai is surrounded by a chain of islands too low for permanent occupation, but inviting as temporary fishing grounds. Sometimes a whole tribe leave their settled homes on Kiwai, and go and camp on these islands for weeks at a time. They cultivate a great variety of yams, bananas, &c. Pottery is unknown to them, and they hardly use the betel-nut. They are very desirous of obtaining clothes and tobacco, and have the general trading aptitude of the Papuan. Two languages are spoken on the island, one of them by two tribes only, and these seem to have come from the left bank of the Fly to the island. They are not cannibals, and seldom go to war with each other. A more complete account of the inspection of Kiwai will be found in Appendix E. hereto,* in connexion with which a map of the island has been prepared by Mr. J. B. Cameron.†

21. On the 10th December a visit was paid to the island of Daumori (D'Albertis' Long Island). The opening of communication with its people was facilitated by some Sumai natives who accompanied the party. The island has an area of 5 or 6 square miles, a considerable part of which may be about a yard above high-water mark. This tribe were friendly; they number about 300. Their language differs from that of Kiwai, but many of them understand the latter dialect. They are closely related to the nearest tribes on the left bank of the river opposite Daumori. In appearance, manner, and customs they closely resemble the natives of Kiwai, but are not nearly so much Europeanised as the latter.

22. When the "Merrie England" was anchored in the Fly river, 51 miles from its mouth, a visit was paid to the powerful tribe of Odagositia, right opposite on the right bank. The land there is about 1 to 2 feet above high-water mark, all covered by

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* See Enclosure 1 in No. 54 in [C. 6323].

† Not printed.

forest. This tribe, although not hostile, never became frank friends with us; probably, as it would appear, in consequence of former ill-treatment at the hands of Europeans. The village is remarkable in so far that practically the whole of its inhabitants, and they number several hundreds, live in one house—a fine structure, 520 feet long, and over 30 feet wide inside. This residence is kept scrupulously clean. The men are always armed. Their language is essentially different from that of Kiwai, but they understand a few words of the latter. They had not been brought into peaceful contact with Europeans before, and are evidently inclined to regard foreigners unfavourably.

23. On the 14th December the party was opposite the village of Tagota, which is on the right bank of the river, nearly 100 miles from its mouth. Up to that point the land, as far as seen on each bank of the river, is not more at any place than 1 or 2 feet above the water at high tide, in many places less. At about 80 miles the right bank is high enough for permanent occupation, and is inhabited. Soon after sunrise, on the morning mentioned above, 15 canoes, containing over 100 men, advanced to attack the party when the steam launch and boats had been left by the tide, which had gone out before daylight, helpless, in mud so deep that communication between those on board and those that had slept ashore was all but impossible. Five men of the party on the river bank were in a position to meet the assailants. By dropping rifle bullets close to the canoes they were prevented from landing on the left bank, and were not allowed nearer to the launch than 500 yards. After some time they were driven back on Tagota village, where they landed and drew up their canoes. Next day peace was made with them, on which they became friendly, and have been so on three subsequent visits. The journey was continued up the river to a point about 180 miles from its mouth, where a small depôt of coal was formed. Only a few natives who were hunting or fishing were seen between Tagota and that place. The country was found to be too low for European occupation, but there are probably parts which could be occupied by a rice-growing population. It is all wooded, but does not produce sago, cocoanuts, or other fruit trees. There is, however, some good cedar timber to be had there. A more complete description of this part of the country, including that referred to in paragraphs 21 and 22, and of the natives met with, will be found in Appendix F.*

24. On the 26th December an ascent of the Fly river was begun from Odagositia, which was continued to the vicinity of the British-German boundary. At about 150 miles from the mouth of the river the last clearly-marked tidal influence was observed. At about 180 miles this river was found to send down a stream of water sufficient to supply double the present population of the globe with 60 gallons of water every 24 hours. The first bifurcation of the Fly—into the Fly and Strickland—is,

* Enclosure 2 in No. 54 in [C. 6323].

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according to our reckoning, at latitude S. 7° 26′, longitude E. 141° 18′. The second bifurcation—into the Alice and the Fly at D'Albertis' Junction—is, according to Mr. Cameron's computation, 460 miles from the mouth of the river, at latitude S. 6° 11′ and longitude E. 141° 8′. Between these two points the river seems to go about 8 or 10 miles into Dutch New Guinea. The next great division is into two rivers nearly equal in size, the Fly and the Palmer, at about 540 miles from the mouth of the river. In the third and fourth hundred miles a great deal of the country is too wet to grow timber, and the population is not fixed or settled, probably because the land is too low for permanent occupation. This is what has probably given the nomadic habit to the tribes of that district. Wild bananas and bread-fruit trees are common; sago trees are not frequent. The first real grass seen was 370 miles from the mouth of the river, and the last cocoa nut tree is at 414 miles on Mr. Cameron's traverse. The first low hills begin some 20 or 30 miles above D'Albertis' Junction; they are of sandstone, are wooded, a few hundred feet high, and are continued up to the mountain range of the interior. With them also begin the first traces of gold in the bed of the river. This was traced to the frontier in the Palmer, but there was nothing to indicate the presence of gold in payable quantity. From some distance below D'Albertis' Junction to the frontier, parts of the country are fit for permanent settlement, but the population still remains scanty. Only at one spot was any actual aggression made on the party, and on that occasion it was by a number of natives we had not previously seen. A Malay received an arrow in the right shoulder-blade. The climate is good. There are thunderstorms daily, and the thermometer in the shade rises to from 85° to 90°, but at night descends to from 72° to 76°. On an average about 1 in 10 of the party was sick. There was nothing seen that would support the idea that there is any race in the interior there different from that on the coast. It does not seem necessary that the Government should establish any administrative influence at present beyond Tagota. A fuller account of this interesting river and country will be found in Appendix G.*

25. The left bank of the Fly was examined from Daumori and to near the mouth of the river, and some relations established with the warlike and dreaded tribe of Egéreba, which occupies the part of the country known to the Kiwai tribes as Manouetti. Although the land lies low, there are here considerable areas that are habitable. The tribes of Daware and Sui, on the right bank of the frith, were also visited and made acquainted in some measure with the Government. At Parama it was found that mission work had made more progress than on the Fly, and that about three fourths of the people there wear a few rags of European clothing. The island is generally low and wet, and the inhabitants plant a considerable part of their food on the mainland.

* Enclosure 1 in No. 57 in [C. 6323].

They do not now carry on war, and are very desirous of trading and of learning the ways of the white man. There are two teachers of the London Missionary Society at Parama, and one at Sui. Near to Yaru Island about a score of boats were engaged in fishing, some for pearlshell, some for trepang. Only two or three of these were local boats, all others having come from Queensland. The island is occupied partly by Papuans, who are attaining some small degree of civilisation, and partly by Polynesians. Some of them engage in fishing trepang, &c. The neighbouring island of Bobo is very low and wet, and is not inhabited. On the 16th February the Oriomo river, which opens opposite Yaru, was ascended for about 40 miles, where it breaks up into small creeks. The first 30 miles were found to be low and swampy; then red clay banks and higher wooded land begin.

Two tribes, the Dariamo and Keruriamo, were met, and friendly relations were established with them. All the coast tribes between Yaru and the Mai Kussa were visited, as well as some of the inland peoples. The Binature river, at Mouatta, was examined, and a visit paid to the inland Goua tribe. The Chief and many men of the Másingara tribe, an inland sept, came to Mouatta to become acquainted with the Government. The Kawa Kussa river was examined for some distance, but the tribe residing not far from it could not be found, as they had retired inland from fear of the marauding Tugere tribe. The little hill of Mabudauan, near the mouth of the Kawa Kussa, the only eminence between the Fly river and the British-Dutch boundary, about 200 feet high, was selected as a Government station. It was found that the Kiwai language, with local alterations, is spoken or understood as far as the Kawa Kussa.

This district will be found reported on more in detail in Appendix H.*

26. The so-called rivers, Mai Kussa and Wassi Kussa, were examined and found to be arms of the sea, about 28 miles long, when they join and break up at nearly 50 miles from the sea into small creeks. The ground on Strachan Island, which they enclose on two of its three sides, is low and wet, covered by mangrove, eucalyptus, and other trees where the soil is not too poor and raw to grow wood. Strachan Island is poor soil, and produces no uncultivated native food. The Wassi tribe, poor, and persecuted by the Tugere, were met with and promised protection. The four islands at the mouth of the Wassi Kussa appear to belong to Queensland, but they are of no value. A great proportion of the country between the Wassi Kussa and the boundary is low and wet, and covered by mangrove; but there are places where there are dry plateaus a couple of yards above high-water mark growing stunted shrubs and trees and short grass. At several places there are traces of cocoa-nut groves, and there are to be seen the sites of abandoned villages which have been depopulated by the Tugere. This tribe was met with

* Enclosure 2 in No. 57 in [C. 6323].

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in force about half-a-score of miles beyond the boundary on their annual raid eastward. They seemed to become suspicious that they were being watched or waited for, and did not come any further. They appear to come from Dutch New Guinea. All along this part of the coast there are great mud, sand, or coral flats left dry at low water. There is no appearance of any valuable fishing there. On the return journey the mouth of a river was found opening into Heath Bay. It was ascended for 120 miles, where it breaks up into small creeks. The first 30 miles was low and wet, covered to a large extent by trees of the mangrove family; then grass-covered swamps and dry plateaus begin. About 60 miles from the mouth there is land fit for permanent human occupation. From there patches of fairly good land are met with. Friendly relations were opened with two tribes which live 20 or 30 miles apart. In many points they resemble the Tugere, but are inferior to them physically. This river drains the greater portion of the country that lies between the Fly river and the Dutch boundary. It is better suited for navigation than any river met with in the Possession. It has been named the Morehead, in honour of the late Premier of Queensland. It was found that there is only one full tide in 24 hours along this western coast. Fuller particulars will be found in Appendix I.*

27. On the 26th April an inspection of the St. Joseph river district was begun. The river is a rapid running stream which will be navigable only to vessels of very shallow draught. The district contains, perhaps, 150 square miles, much of which is rich alluvial land, but a considerable portion is wet and swampy. The population is probably about 10,000; and they are the best fed and the richest in native property in the Possession as far as it is at present known. Some of the tribes count over 1,000 members in one village. They are neither cannibals nor skull-hunters, but the scourge of the district consists in intertribal retaliatory murders and massacres. Many Europeans have at different times visited this part of the country. Some of the Chiefs have considerable authority among the people, and are remarkably intelligent. They are, as a rule, a healthy and robust race, and it is hoped that with their superior soil it may be possible to teach them to become producers of something for export. Efforts were made to put a stop to a great feud raging between several of the tribes, but these endeavours were not then crowned by success, although the Chiefs were individually generally conciliated. At most of the villages a promise was obtained that land would be sold for mission purposes. A suitable site was selected for the head-quarters of the mission on a low hill near the river. It was found that there are two languages in use; that spoken by the villagers next the sea being the same as the language of Roro and Maiva, that spoken further inland being essentially different in structure. The mission establishments

* Enclosure in No. 59 in [C. 6323].

and the native villages on Roro were inspected. The natives are poor compared to the St. Joseph tribes, and their soil is not rich. They seem to obtain a large portion of their food from the mainland in exchange for fish or pottery.

28. A second journey was made to the St. Joseph district in the end of May on account of disturbances between Rarai and a tribe not seen on the former visit, as they lived in a remote place not easy to be reached. A walk of seven or eight hours brought the party from the coast to the principal village of the district. A formal peace was concluded publicly between the tribes of Rarai, Amoamo (Pinongo), Baipa, Aipeana, and Maiva. Amoamo (Aku) was visited, and its Chiefs and people acknowledged the authority of the Government, and peaceful relations were established between them and their former antagonists of Rarai and Ngauauni. At the same time the hostile tribes of Inawai and Inawabui were again warned that they must put an end to their intertribal strife. Both sides gave assurances that they will preserve the peace in future. The smaller community of Bioto was called on at the same time. They were found to be in a satisfactory condition, and very desirous to obtain a teacher. The particulars of these inspections of the St. Joseph district are given in Appendices J. and M. hereto.*

29. On the 23rd April a visit was paid to the village of Delena, and the Chief and people had a good opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the immediate objects of the Government. They do not fight with their neighbours, and are an industrious community of probably nearly 200 people; they have made considerable advance towards civilisation. Next day Nara was visited because it had been reported that a woman had been murdered there and the teacher threatened. It was found that the Chieftess of the tribe had no authority whatever, that a number of men had gone back to the worst practices of their old savagery, had been killing other people's pigs, had threatened several persons, and had actually killed one. The unruly element was completely cowed and humiliated, and the older men gained over; but no arrests could be made, as the actual murderers had fled. A short time afterwards the principal culprit was arrested, and two accomplices were surrendered and delivered up to the Government. A fuller description of the incidents referred to is contained in Appendix K.†

30. On 11th May an inspection was made of the district of Maiva and Kevori. Very considerable progress had been made by the London Missionary Society in softening the manners of each of these tribes, but it had not yet reached such a stage as to put a stop to a long-continued blood feud between the two septs. Neither side could entertain the idea of making concessions to the other; but each professed to be weary of the struggle and to be glad to have peace imposed on both. The actual formalities

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* Enclosure 1 in No. 76, and Enclosure in No. 86 in [C. 6323].

† Enclosure 2 in No. 76 in [C. 6323].

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of peace-making were carried out the day after it was formally enjoined on each tribe, the ceremonies taking place in the presence of the teachers of both tribes. A second visit was paid to this district on the 23rd May, when relations between the two tribes were found to be satisfactory. The whole district probably numbers over 3,000 souls. They have a large area of good flat land between the sea and the low rolling hills behind them; but it is not sufficient for such a large population, and it was found that they have many gardens in the hollows between the hills, and even beyond them, probably half-a-dozen miles from the village. They are an intelligent people, for whom a bright future may be expected. Fuller details are given in Appendix K.*

31. Inspection tours of lesser importance were made to other districts, as to the tribe of Kabadi, who were, like their neighbours at Nara, falling under the influence of a lawless element in the community; to Kerepunu, a second visit to Aroma, Mairu, Suau, &c., but these need not be further spoken of here.

Government Property.

32. The property of the Government mentioned in last year's report has been augmented by the purchase of:—(1.) About half a-score of acres of land at Sagara, on the island of Misima, as a site for the station of the Assistant Magistrate of the district. This was bought from the native owners by the Resident Magistrate, at a cost to the Government of about 10*l.* in merchandise. (2.) Probably 320 acres of waste land near Port Moresby. This transaction was negotiated by the Government Secretary. With almost insignificant exceptions, the land is of use only for grazing purposes, and even for that it is far from being of a superior character. The cost of purchase amounted to 13*l.*, the sale being effected by the ascertained native owners.

33. The island of Tauko (Fisherman Island) has been taken possession of, on behalf of the Crown, as being waste and vacant land. It is situated two or three miles from Port Moresby, has not been used for planting purposes, and was not claimed by any natives, although due inquiry was made on that point. A considerable area of it is considered suitable for the cocoanut tree. Some 1,500 nuts have been planted during the year, and 3,000 or 4,000 more have been sprouted there, to be planted out when the rainy season commences. So far, the undertaking promises to be successful. If these plantations thrive they will be of great use in the district. Intrinsically, they will be valuable to the Government, and they may suggest and encourage similar work among the natives. They could, however, not be induced to plant cocoanuts on such a place as this island without some such example; they would, under ordinary circumstances, speedily steal and eat every nut planted out.

34. The small granite hill of Mabudauan at the mouth of the Kawa Kussa River was found to be waste and vacant land, and

* Enclosure 2 in No. 76 [in C. 6323].

was taken possession of as a station for the Resident Magistrate of the Western Division. The necessary buildings have been put up, land has been cleared and planted, and the place has now become a favourite resort for natives. It appears that now several tribes are inclined to claim it as their property, and some payment may have to be made after careful inquiry as to who should receive it.

35. To the Government vessels there was added by purchase the steam launch "Ruby," at a cost of 700*l*. This vessel is 37 feet over all, and has a width of about 7 feet. It is at present used by the Resident Magistrate of the Western Division.

36. The Crown lands at Port Moresby have been increased in value by the formation of roads and the building of a jetty in the vicinity of the Government offices, and by the laying out of an experimental garden on the land near to Government House, and by the erection of new fencing.

Establishments.

37. Officers employed in the service of the Possession during the year were as follows:—

Office.	Name.	Date of assuming Office.	Emoluments per Annum.
Administrator - -	Sir William MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G.	4th September 1888 -	1,500*l*. and 200*l*. allowance.
Private Secretary -	T. H. Hatton-Richards -	24th September 1889	300*l*.
Chief Judicial Officer -	The Hon. Francis Pratt Winter.	25th October 1888 -	1,000*l*.
Government Secretary and Treasurer.	The Hon. Anthony Musgrave.	4th September 1888	500*l*. and 200*l*. allowance.
Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division.	The Hon. B. A. Hely -	21st October 1888 -	500*l*.
Assistant Resident Magistrate, Central Division.*	The Hon. M. H. Moreton	11th September 1889	300*l*.
Resident Magistrate, Western Division.*	J. B. Cameron - -	" "	500*l*.
Collector of Customs, &c., Port Moresby.	Frank Lawes - -	22nd September 1888	300*l*
Commandant* - -	Duncan Alexander McNeill	11th Sept. 1889 to 31st Sept. 1889.	"
Government Printer -	John George Allen -	4th September 1888	275*l*.
Government Agent at Rigo.	George Hunter† - -	4th September 1888 to 28th May 1890.	250*l*.
Gaoler and Overseer -	Dennis Gleeson - -	4th September 1888	"
Sub-Collector of Customs, Samarai.	David Ballantine - -	25th July 1889 -	200*l*.
Government Storekeeper	Charles Kowald - -	4th September 1888	150*l*.
Master s.s. "Merrie England."*	James Martin Hennessy -	6th August 1889 -	270*l*.
Chief Engineer* ditto -	Henry Phillips - -	8th August 1889 -	240*l*.
Master "Hygeia" -	Colin Thomson - -	4th September 1888	"

* New appointment.

† Deceased; duties now discharged by Mr. A. C. English.

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38. Two deaths occurred in the staff during the year, both set down at the time to fever. Mr. George Hunter, Government Agent in the Rigo District, was supposed to have succumbed to this disease, complicated apparently by pneumonia, after a few days' illness. Almost immediately after his decease the Government received information to the effect that Mr. Hunter had met with foul play during an attack of fever. As it is usual among the natives of New Guinea to ascribe every death to human agency of some kind or other, it was thought that in all probability there was no basis for the supposition that Mr. Hunter had been murdered. His successor in office was instructed to make quiet and cautious inquiry into the matter; and after being some time in the district he reported that he believed the rumour to be without foundation. Subsequently the new Government Agent, Mr. A. C. English, traced out the crime, and with great ability arrested the murderers, who are now in gaol under sentence of death. Mr. Hunter's death was a decided loss to the public service, as he was getting his station and district into much better order, and was making good progress in a work that was considered of much importance to the Government—the making of a road from Port Moresby to Aroma. Mr. Hunter had also begun to study the native dialects on a systematic method, and had come to like his work and to take a deep interest in it.

The second death was that of Maka, a native of Lifu. He was at one time on the teaching staff of the London Missionary Society in New Guinea, and was one of the best linguists in the Possession. He was put in charge of the Cloudy Bay District as Government Agent, when he unfortunately, after a few months, became saturated with fever, of which he died. From his tact and knowledge, and on account of his quiet but firm character, there was every reason to believe that he would become a valuable public servant. He had been in the service of the Protectorate, and was much esteemed by Mr. Douglas.

39. During the year there were a great many cases of fever among the officers and employées of the Government. Exposure to wet, to cold winds, or to the direct rays of the sun, seem to be predisposing causes. The Papuans employed did not seem to have any special immunity from it, but their attacks are, as a rule, less severe than those suffered by foreigners.

No change took place in the membership of the Executive or Legislative Council during the year.

There were appointed members of the Native Regulation Board, under Ordinance No. IX. of 1889 :—

The members of the Legislative Council.
F. E. P. Lawes, Esq.
J. B. Cameron, Esq.
T. H. Hatton-Richards, Esq.
Andrew Goldie, Esq.
A. H. Kissack, Esq.

These appointments were made on the 25th April 1890.

TRADE.

40. In the Appendix O., page 41, will be found detailed statements of imports, exports, and navigation; also a return which shows the amount of correspondence which, exclusive of official matter, passed through the Post Office. The figures are contrasted with those of the previous year.

Imports.

The total value of imports entered at Samarai, and Port Moresby was:—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888–89 - -	6,016 13 2	5,091 19 0	11,108 12 2
1889–90 - -	6,798 13 0	9,305 10 0	16,104 3 0

The principal items were :—

——	1888–89.	1889–90.
	£	£
Food stuffs - - -	5,400	7,124
Drapery - - - -	1,185	1,392
Tobacco and cigars - -	996	1,290
Hardware (including grindery) -	927	1,123
Beverages - - - -	805	1,143
Clothes - - - -	550	190
Building materials - - -	246	1,086
Other articles - - -	999	2,756
Totals - - -	11,108	16,104

Exports.

The total value of exports has been :—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888–89 - -	5,071	871	5,943
1889–90 - -	5,458	997	6,455

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It will be noticed that in the table of Exports, in Appendix O., gold does not appear. Vessels have been cleared outwards from Samarai, passing the goldfields—Misima (Saint Aignan) and Tagula (Sudest)—on the voyage from Samarai to Cooktown. All gold obtained was in this way taken or sent to Australia without being entered or declared at any Custom House in the Possession. The amounts declared at the Custom House at Cooktown, which no doubt are greatly less than the total obtained, have kindly been furnished by Mr. Burkitt, Sub-Collector of Customs, Cooktown :—

1888–89.		1889–90.	
Ounces - -	3,850	Ounces - -	3,470
Value - -	£14,387	Value - -	£12,440

Bêche-de-mer.—Next to gold the most valuable article of export has been trepang. The produce of this fishery as compared with last year is as follows :—

1888–89.		1889–90.	
Tons - -	38½	Tons - -	70¼
Value - -	£2,178	Value - -	£4,682

Pearlshell comes next in importance as an export, but this fishery is still declining, as will be seen from the following comparative statement of the quantity declared at the Custom House :—

1888–89.		1889–90.	
Tons - -	15¾	Tons - -	12¼
Value - -	£1,510	Value - -	£1,050

A great quantity of bêche-de-mer and pearlshell found in the waters of the Possession is still taken direct to Queensland, and does not figure in these returns.

Copra was exported last year to the extent of 76 tons, valued at 550*l.*; and this year only 43 tons, valued at 250*l.*, has been entered outwards. This does not include a quantity, at least as great, which has been sent to German New Guinea without being declared at the Custom House. It is said by the local traders

that freight and charges on copra shipped by way of Australia are so heavy that its export does not pay.

Shipping.

No vessel under a foreign flag was entered or cleared at the Custom House during the year. The movements of vessels compare thus with those of last year :—

—	1888–89.	1889–90.
Seagoing vessels -	Entered 47 ; tonnage, 4,108 -	Entered, 45 ; tonnage, 3,727.
	Cleared, 38 ; tonnage, 3,284 -	Cleared, 45 ; tonnage, 3,520.
Vessels coastwise -	Entered, 151 ; tonnage, 3,374	Entered, 47 ; tonnage, 2,170.
	Cleared, 150 ; tonnage, 3,668 -	Cleared, 51 ; tonnage, 2,767.

Vessels engaged in fishing in the western waters of the Possession have not been entered at the Custom House.

Postal.—The arrival and departure of mails has been somewhat irregular, there being no subsidized mail service. The postal returns are contrasted with those of last year below :—

Article.	1888–89.	1889–90.
Letters received - - -	2,366	3,166
Letters despatched - - -	2,587	2,586
Packets received - - -	93	111
Packets despatched - -	98	84
Newspapers received - -	4,071	6,844
Newspapers despatched - -	574	590

Mission Work.

41. So far as the Possession is concerned there has practically been little change in the staffs of the London Missionary Society and of the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. The stations of the former society in the Fly River district and westward were visited during the year. It was well known to the society that renewed effort was required in that part of the country ; and it has been put under the direction of the Rev. James Chalmers, under whose energy, earnestness, and experience a great extension of mission work may confidently be looked

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for. He has already visited the district and ascertained what its requirements are. The same gentleman has accomplished most useful work at Motu-Motu, which has for some time past been his head-quarters.

Most creditable work has been accomplished in the villages of Kevori by Papuan teachers, and in the villages of Maiva by Raratonga teachers, under the general supervision of Mr. Chalmers. The teachers from Delena to Morobada were also visited. They have had great difficulties to contend with on account of the lawless disposition of numbers of the inhabitants there. Several of the tribes had fallen under the influence of a set of unruly men, but such steps had been taken by the Government as will, it is believed, supply a remedy to this state of matters. The Port Moresby establishment of the mission was again inspected. Two points require special mention in connexion with the school there. In the training establishment were five young men who will, it is expected, begin to take up mission work on their own account within the year. The extent and accuracy of their Scripture knowledge was most gratifying, and reflected very great credit on the Rev. W. G. Lawes. In the lower school some half dozen classes were taught by native women, who have been fitted for that work by Mrs. Lawes. Mr. Lawes has translated the whole of the New Testament into the Motu tongue, of which he is clearly the greatest master, and is engaged now in revising this great and important work. His grammar and dictionary of the same language, already a volume of astonishing accuracy and comprehensiveness, is being extended.

The school and training establishment of the same society at Kerepunu was found to be in a very efficient state, under the control of the Rev. A. Pearse. Nine students were being trained as teachers, and it was thought then that in about a year several of them would be able to begin teaching work in the neighbouring villages. In the upper school were 32 pupils. In this school there is present the same high tone of order and respectful attention that was noticed on the first inspection of the upper school at Port Moresby. The women are taught sewing and reading by Mrs. Pearse. Mr. Pearse is translating Scriptural lessons, &c., into the Kerepunu language, and printing these himself. Detailed reports of the visits of inspection to the schools of the London Missionary Society at Port Moresby, at Kerepunu, and at Mairu and Suau Islands will be found in Appendices L. and N. hereto.*

The new mission station at Mairu (Toulon Island) was visited, and it was found that the teacher, a native of Tahiti, had made good progress, and had already gained considerable influence. The stations at Suau, Milne Bay, and Wari were all found to be doing good work.

42. All the stations of the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart were visited during the year. Two Brothers were

* Enclosures in No. 78 and 87 in [C.—6323].

in charge of the school for the two native villages of Roro (Yule Island). About two dozen children knew the alphabet, and about half that number were beginning to read. On the mainland they had one establishment at work and well grounded, at the village of Mou, in charge of a kind, devoted, and intelligent teacher, Père Tousblanc, and one Brother. School work there was progressing very satisfactorily, and a large influence for good has been gained there by the mission. Some 30 children were seen at school, about half the number on the roll, and these all knew the alphabet, and were beginning to read. Schools were opened lately, from Mou as a centre, at two other villages in the vicinity of that place. Unfortunately the members of this mission have suffered greatly from fever, apparently attributable in a great measure to defective diet, to the performance of much manual labour in the sun, and to the notorious insalubrity of Roro Island. Clearly they have undergone a great deal of suffering and hardship, and their progress has thereby been retarded.

The plans of Bishop Verjus for extending the work of the mission until it embraces the whole of the Saint Joseph district appear to be good, and he possesses in a marked manner the energy, intelligence, and ability required to carry them out.

43. Both the English Church and the Wesleyan Church have decided to take up missionary work in the Possession. The Rev. A. Maclaren visited New Guinea on behalf of the former, and the Rev. George Brown on behalf of the latter. These gentlemen met the Rev. W. G. Lawes and the Rev. James Chalmers at Port Moresby, where they resolved to divide the field of labour, so that the Wesleyan mission should occupy the whole of the Louisiade and Dentrecasteaux groups of islands, and the part of the mainland from East Cape to Cape Ducie; the Anglican mission the whole of the north-east coast from Cape Ducie to the northern boundary; the London Missionary Society all the south coast, excluding the portion taken up by the missionaries of the Society of the Sacred Heart. This is as good an arrangement as could have been come to. The two new missions were happy in the selection of their representatives for the settlement of these matters; and it can be seen that the veteran missionaries of the original mission have met their fellow-workers in the most generous spirit, seeking only the best interests of the native population.

Land.

44. No grants of land in fee-simple have been made during the year. As shown above, provision has been made for the issue of Crown grants, and for the registration of ownership on real property by bringing the Queensland Real Property Acts into force within the Possession. This will shortly be supplemented by a law which will lay down the terms and conditions under which Crown lands can be obtained and leased or alienated in perpetuity.

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A large additional area of the lands of the Possession came under inspection in the course of the year. The best that came under notice is that of the St. Joseph River district, which appears to be of high quality. It has a large, industrious, healthy population, which live by agriculture. No systematic plan for the settlement of Europeans there would be possible; but it is not improbable that small areas of neutral land between tribes that have been enemies for generations may be found which could become Crown lands, either on the ground of being waste or by purchase. If this is found to be the case there could be no better place for the commencement of some industry, such, for example, as that for the production of sugar, the cultivation of corn, rice, &c.

45. On the lower stretches of the great Fly river, there is apparently not much land sufficiently elevated to be fit for European occupation that is not in use by natives. Towards the frontier, on the upper regions of the Fly river, there is an indefinite area of land that might be fit for occupation by Europeans, and the climate there seems to be good, and there are traces of gold all along the river beds. But the distance from the coast, 500 or 600 miles by the river, is practically prohibitive at present.

46. The country that lies between the Fly river and the Government Station at Mabudauan is so low and wet that European settlement on it on any large scale is improbable. There is a considerable native population there on the drier and better portions of the land. From Mabudauan westward to the British-Dutch boundary the land is low and wet, much of it covered by mangrove or eucalyptus trees, and there is at present practically no native population on the coast there, the tribes that formerly lived there having been driven further inland or destroyed by the marauding, powerful Tugere tribe from Dutch New Guinea. There are, however, patches of this country that would be good grazing land, and some of it might be fit for cultivation on a small scale. Some good pasture land and small areas fit for cultivation were seen on the upper stretches of the River Morehead, at from 60 to 120 miles from the coast by the river, but most of the soil there will be found to be low and wet. The best land there is occupied by two native tribes. It may be stated briefly that, so far, no district has been found in the Possession in which any systematic plan for the settlement of Europeans could be carried out.

FINANCE.

Revenue.

47. The total revenue collected and paid over to the Treasury of Queensland was 3,015*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* It is contrasted with that of last year in the table below:—

Items.	1888–89.	1889–90.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs dues - - - -	2,419 10 2	2,893 10 4
Gold field receipts - - - -	187 17 0	20 15 0
Shipping fees - - - -	1 18 0	4 10 0
Fines - - - - -	25 13 6	41 10 0
Licenses - - - - -	2 0 0	11 0 0
Miscellaneous - - - -	42 13 2	44 8 0
Totals - - -	£2,679 11 10	£3,015 13 4

Expenditure.

48. The actual expenditure charged to the 15,000*l.* guaranteed for the necessary expenses of the administration was 14,975*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* It is classified below, and is compared with the expenditure shown in last year's report :—

Head of Expenditure.	1888–89.	1889–90.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil List salaries - - - -	2,633 19 7	3,300 0 0
Other salaries - - - -	1,796 0 6	2,381 18 6
Vessels and boats - - - -	2,747 11 4	2,564 3 0
Allowances—house and travelling—for all officers and employés.	1,296 13 11	2,548 3 2
Stores - - - - -	722 0 7	350 18 8
Buildings - - - - -	185 1 10	1,144 19 3
Agriculture - - - - -	2 10 0	137 11 9
Mail service - - - - -	445 0 0	—
Miscellaneous - - - -	940 13 6	2,547 11 0
Totals - - -	£10,769 11 3	£14,975 5 4

49. A balance of 1,512*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, which was to the credit of the Protectorate account when sovereignty was declared, was allowed by the contributing Colonies to be used by the administration for special exploration purposes. Of this 642*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* was expended during the year, and there remains to the credit of this account 869*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*

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50. Expenditure in connexion with the s.s. "Merrie England" for maintenance for the year ending 31st March 1890 was 5,154*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, and for the quarter ending 30th June last 2,122*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* The Imperial grant for the maintenance of the steamer has been increased to 5,000*l.* a year, but the total cost, including insurance, will not be less than 7,000*l.* for the current year. There was expended in August and September of last year on repairs and alterations of the "Merrie England" 959*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and on the purchase of a steam launch 700*l.* These two last sums were charged to the Steamer Purchase Account, created under section five of the Second Schedule to "The British "New Guinea (Queensland) Act of 1887." This account now stands as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cost of "Merrie England" prior to departure from London, including insurance for 12 months -	11,981	7	2
Agency expenses on voyage out -	1,072	16	10
Other expenses up to delivery in British New Guinea - -	407	14	1
Repairs and alterations, 1889 -	959	5	6
Launch "Ruby" - - -	700	0	0
Unexpended balance - -	3,378	16	5
	18,500	0	0

It is hoped that the unexpended balance will be made available for the purchase of a vessel or vessels suitable permanently for the use of the Administration in the western part of the Possession.

51. No change has been made in the tariff of Customs dues during the year. Speaking generally of the rates of duty leviable, they must be said to be low. Biscuits, flour, meats, fish, meal, fresh vegetables, building material, machinery, and most things connected with shipping are free. The duty on drapery, boots and shoes, hardware, clothes, and cutlery is at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad valorem;* on rice, 10*s.* per ton; on trade tobacco, 1*s.* per lb.; on sugar, 2*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.; on tea, 2*d.* per lb.; and on other articles in something like the same proportion. The tariff will be found in full as Appendix Q. hereto.*

52. The Hon. A. Musgrave has acted as Treasurer during the year without any increase to his salary. The efficient way in which he has discharged these additional duties will be gathered from the clear and masterly report of Mr. Deshon, Auditor General of Queensland, in Appendix P.

Native Dialects.

53. During the year much time and attention was given to the study of a few of the native dialects of the Possession. These

* *See* pages 293–297 of [C.—5883], August 1889.

will be found in Appendix X. hereto.* Two of these are from the western division, the languages of Kiwai and of Boigu (Sabai). The former is likely to be of nearly as much use in the west as Motu is in the central district. It is spoken or understood more or less all over the Fly frith, and round the coast as far west as the Kawa Kussa river. The language of the tribes on the Morehead river, and that of the Tugere tribe, are unfortunately still quite unknown; even to the Boigu natives, the most westerly people whose language is known to us, they are entirely incomprehensible.

54. The three dialects from the central district, namely, those of the Upper St. Joseph, of the Koiari and Koita tribes, will be in point of utility very far behind Motu, but they possess considerable interest, and will be of some use, especially Koiari and Koita, in establishing relations with the tribes on the north of these people. The language of the Upper St. Joseph is perhaps of more value to the ethnologist than any of the others, possessing as it does affinities that are not shared with the Roro-Maiva tongue spoken by a people near to them and between them and the coast. The latter will, however, probably finally become the printed, business, and school language of the district. Mr. F. Lawes has performed a large share in preparing these three vocabularies.

55. The appendix contains five dialects from the east end of the Possession. Those of Misima (St. Aignan) and of Tagula (Sudest) were begun by Mr. B. H. Thomson, when my private secretary, and both Mr. Hely and Mr. Moreton assisted in their extension. Mr. Ballantine gave very efficient assistance in preparing the Sariba vocabulary. The Sariba dialect will probably become the best known of all the east-end languages, on account of Samarai being the principal Government station there and a shipping port. Of the Awaiama language a few words are understood as far north as Kapi Kapi (Cape Vogel).

56. It is not pretended that even the fullest of these vocabularies is anything more than a mere introduction. Imperfect as they are they represent an amount of patient labour that can best be estimated by those who have undertaken similar work.

57. By the kind permission of the Rev. W. G. Lawes, I am able to reproduce seven native languages reduced to writing by the London Missionary Society. The vocabulary of the Motu language given here is a mere introduction to that tongue, inserted for the purposes of comparison. Mr. Lawes has prepared and published as a separate work a comprehensive grammar and dictionary of the Motu tongue, a work of the careful, exhaustive, and solid kind, that will be the more admired the more it is examined and tested. It will undoubtedly remain the standard authority for all time. It has been of much use to the Government.

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* Not printed.

Scientific Results.

58. The acquisitions to natural science made during the year, if not perhaps of quite so important a character as those obtained in the period covered by the last Annual Report, present nevertheless some interesting features. I have again to express my acknowledgments to Baron Sir Ferdinand Von Mueller, K.C.M.G., F.R.S., for a note on certain botanical specimens submitted to that distinguished botanist for classification, which will be found in Appendix T., page 63. Other specimens of the flora of the Possession are now on their way to Melbourne for examination by that gentleman, and it is hoped that a description of their characteristics may be received for inclusion in the next Annual Report.

Mr. C. W. De Vis, M.A., Curator of the Queensland Museum, has also once more furnished a valuable contribution on zoological and ornithological collections. His reports are contained in Appendix U., page 64.

Mr. H. Tryon, Assistant Curator of the Queensland Museum, has contributed an interesting and exhaustive report. The first part deals with beetles procured in the St. Joseph district, the second with butterflies obtained in different parts of the Possession; this appears in Appendix V., page 69. Mr. C. Hedley, of the Queensland Museum, who visited the Possession at the commencement of the year, is now engaged in an examination of the shells collected on the various expeditions he undertook, but his report thereon will not, it is feared, be ready for some time to come.

Thanks are also due to Messrs. J. G. Sloane and J. D. Ogilby, of the Australian Museum, Sydney, for notes on certain coleoptera and on reptiles, batrachians, fishes, &c., respectively, which are included in Appendix W., page 84.

The examination of fossils from the Fly river, which has been kindly undertaken by Mr. R. Etheridge, is not yet complete, and consequently the publication of his remarks thereon must be deferred until next year.

General.

59. In compliance with instructions, I left Port Moresby on the 22nd July for Brisbane, to transact there various matters of business connected with the Administration. Estimates of expenditure for the year and several draft Ordinances were discussed, some new appointments were made to the public service of the Possession, and the s.s. "Merrie England" was refitted and underwent repairs. I returned to Port Moresby on the 23rd September. During my absence the Hon. F. P. Winter acted as Deputy Administrator, and conducted the duties of the office to my entire satisfaction.

60. During the year the Administration of the Possession received much practical assistance from the Hon. B. D. More-

head, Premier of Queensland, who with his colleagues as heads of departments in Queensland did everything they could to advance and facilitate the work of the Administration. Mr. Morehead had a considerable amount of business transacted for the Possession free of cost, and his experience as a business man was often of much use to the Administration. The Hon. A. J. Thynne, Minister of Justice, very kindly revised the drafts of Ordinances prepared, so that the Administration had the advantage of his knowledge and experience. The s.s. "Merrie England" was repaired and refitted under the supervision of the port authorities of Brisbane, and docked free of charge. The Administration has also received valuable and much appreciated assistance from Mr. W. M. Davidson, Surveyor General, and from Mr. R. H. Lawson, chief draftsman in the Survey Office. Mr. E. Deshon, Auditor General, has very kindly advised and assisted the Administration in many matters affecting the keeping of the accounts of the Possession, and has done all in his power to secure for them a satisfactory audit.

There has been every reason to be satisfied with the way in which the officers of the Possession have performed their several duties during the year. Less has been accomplished by some of those exposed to the vicissitudes of climate than would have been achieved had they suffered less from fever. It has been mentioned already that Mr. Winter efficiently performed the duties of Deputy Administrator for some time. The special and very important duties of his office as Chief Magistrate have been discharged with the care and patience, and in the simple manner, that is so necessary in such a country as British New Guinea.

Mr. Musgrave as Government Secretary has shown such devotion to his work and so much administrative ability in conducting official business, that it is easy for the Administrator to be more frequently absent from Port Moresby than would otherwise be the case. To Mr. J. B. Cameron we are indebted for the originals of most of the maps that accompany this report. The most valuable prepared during the year are those of Cloudy Bay, the Fly River, Kiwai Island, and of the country west of the Fly River, all prepared by Mr. Cameron with great care and much ability. That Mr. Hely has performed good service and made satisfactory progress during the year in the districts near his station will be seen on perusing the report on his district (Appendix S., page 57). Mr. Frank Lawes, in addition to special assistance given in the matter of compiling native dialects, has rendered very efficient service in native matters generally, besides conducting in a very satisfactory manner the duties of Collector of Customs, Postmaster, &c. He has furnished a report on the Central District, which will be found as Appendix R., page 52; it will well repay perusal.

61. Endeavours have been made to strengthen the position of a number of the leading men in certain tribes, so as to increase their authority and to put on them some responsibility towards the Government. A certain amount of progress has been made in

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that direction, but great patience is required in this matter, and it will be long before the position of any Chief is sufficiently strong and authoritative to make him an efficient Government officer. The death of two officers and the illness of others greatly interfered with the efforts of the Government in this work.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency
Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E.,
Governor of Queensland.

APPENDIX O.

IMPORTS, EXPORTS, NAVIGATION, AND POSTAL.

Imports entered at Port Moresby and Samarai from the 1st July 1889 to the 30th June 1890.

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value
Acid, tartaric	40 lb.	£ 10 s. 15 d. 0	—	—	40 lb.	£ 10 s. 15 d. 0
„ muriatic	1 gal. 1 qt.	0 15 0	—	—	1 gal. 1 qt.	0 15 0
„ carbonic	2 gals.	1 0 0	—	—	2 gals.	1 0 0
Anchors	2	22 0 0	2	3 0 0	4	25 0 0
Arrowroot	348 lb.	9 5 0	—	—	348 lb.	9 5 0
Adzes	4 doz.	10 5 0	—	—	4 doz.	10 5 0
Axes	25 2/12 doz.	42 10 0	—	—	25 2/12 doz.	42 10 0
Bags (paper)	10 cwt.	17 10 0	—	—	10 cwt.	17 10 0
Basket ware	1	0 15 0	—	—	1	0 15 0
Beads	10 lb.	1 0 0	321 lb.	20 0 0	331 lb.	21 0 0
Barley	72 bshls.	1 0 0	—	—	72 bshls.	1 0 0
Beer (bottled)	478 gals.	121 15 0	1,154 gals.	299 0 0	1,632 gals.	420 15 0
„ (wood)	80 gals.	32 0 0	—	—	80 gals.	32 0 0
Biscuits	T. C. Q. L. 3 1 2 17	106 5 0	5,990 lb.	99 0 0	T. C. Q. L. 5 5 0 17	205 5 0
„ (sweet)	0 9 0 6	38 15 0	106 lb.	2 10 0	0 10 0 0	41 5 0
Bitters (hop)	—	—	2 gals.	1 10 0	2 gals.	1 10 0
Blacking	1½ doz.	0 5 0	—	—	1½ doz.	0 5 0
Blue	43 lb.	2 0 0	3 lb.	0 3 0	46 lb.	2 3 0
Boats	2	65 0 0	1	44 0 0	3	109 0 0
Boxes	12 pkgs.	34 0 0	—	—	12 pkgs.	34 0 0
Books	4 cases	46 15 0	—	—	4 cases	46 15 0
Boots	126 pairs	49 15 0	278 pairs	96 5 0	404 pairs.	146 0 0
Brandy	34½ gals.	34 15 0	199 gals.	143 15 0	233½ gals.	178 10 0
Brushware	4 pkgs.	15 0 0	—	—	4 pkgs.	15 0 0
Building materials.	—	150 0 0	—	—	—	150 0 0
Butter	758 lb.	70 0 0	4,114 lb.	326 5 0	4,872 lb.	396 5 0
Bungs	—	—	—	0 5 0	—	0 5 0
Candles	483	15 5 0	1,750 lb.	58 5 0	2,233 lb.	73 10 0
Canvas	443 yards	25 0 0	284 yards	32 15 0	727 yds.	57 15 0
Caps (percussion)	20,500	5 15 0	—	—	20,500	5 15 0
Cartridges	400	3 15 0	—	20 0 0	400	23 15 0
Cartridge cases	2,950	13 0 0	—	—	2,950	13 0 0
Cement	4 casks	3 15 0	—	—	4 casks	3 15 0
Cheese	386 lb.	22 10 0	515 lb.	24 5 0	901 lb.	46 15 0
Chain	2½ cwt.	3 0 0	C. Q. L. 5 3 14	5 0 0	C. Q. L. 6 1 14	8 0 0

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Chicory	1 cwt.	5 0 0	—	—	1 cwt.	5 0 0
Cigarette paper	1 pkt.	0 15 0	—	—	3 lb.	1 15 0
Cigarettes	—	—	2 lb.	1 0 0		
Cigars	48 lb.	9 10 0	21 lb.	6 0 0	69 lb.	15 10 0
Clocks & watches	—	7 5 0	—	—	—	7 5 0
Clothing	—	29 0 0	—	—	—	29 0 0
Coal tar	35 gals.	3 0 0	—	—	35 gals.	3 0 0
Cocoa	205½ lb.	40 0 0	12 lb.	2 0 0	217½ lb.	42 0 0
Coffee	1,106½ lb.	84 15 0	765 lb.	67 5 0	187⅓ lb.	152 0 0
Confectionery	70 lb.	3 0 0	12 lb.	1 0 0	82 lb.	4 0 0
Coke	4 bags	0 10 0	—	—	4 bags	0 10 0
Cordials	47 gals.	35 15 0	8 gals.	3 5 0	55 gals.	39 0 0
Copper nails	—	—	47 lb.	4 15 0	47 lb.	4 15 0
Cornflour	281 lb.	10 10 0	94 lb.	4 0 0	275 lb.	14 10 0
Corks	—	2 5 0	—	—	—	2 5 0
Cream of tartar	6 lb.	0 10 0	98 lb.	8 5 0	104 lb.	8 15 0
Crockery	4 pkgs.	34 10 0	—	0 5 0	4 pkgs.	34 15 0
Curry powder	5 lb.	0 10 0	—	—	5 lb.	0 10 0
Cutlery	—	21 15 0	—	2 15 0	—	24 10 0
Diving gear	—	—	—	2 0 0	—	2 0 0
Doors	24 pairs	49 0 0	—	—	24 pairs	49 0 0
Drapery	—	1,125 15 0	—	266 10 0	—	1,392 5 0
Drugs	—	118 0 0	—	132 0 0	—	250 0 0
Dynamite	2 lb.	0 5 0	—	—	2 lb.	0 5 0
Eggs	6½ doz.	1 0 0	—	—	6½ doz.	1 0 0
Electro ware	—	3 0 0	—	—	—	3 0 0
Engine	1	117 0 0	—	—	1	117 0 0
Essences	1¾ doz.	0 15 0	1 doz.	0 5 0	2¾ doz.	1 0 0
Fish (dried)	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ (preserved)	—	—	3,000 lb.	133 5 0	3,000 lb.	133 5 0
	T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.	
Flour	17 7 1 22	283 5 0	38 14 3 10	572 10 0	56 2 1 4	855 15 0
Fruit (canned)	213 doz. pts.	86 15 0	94 doz. pts.	38 0 0	307 doz. pts.	124 15 0
„ (dried)	360 lb.	12 0 0	1,058 lb	36 10 0	1,418 lb.	48 10 0
„ (green)	8 cases	8 15 0	—	—	8 cases	8 15 0
„ (salts)	10½ doz.	18 5 0	—	—	10½ doz.	18 5 0
Furniture	7 pkgs.	97 0 0	—	—	7 pkgs.	97 0 0
Geneva and schnapps.	—	—	5 gals.	1 0 0	5 gals,	1 0 0
Gin	2 gals.	1 0 0	8 gals.	3 0 0	10 gals.	4 0 0
Ginger	6 lb.	0 10 0	—	—	6 lb.	0 10 0
Glassware	2 pkgs.	23 15 0	—	2 10 0	2 pkgs.	26 5 0
Glue	85 lb.	4 15 0	—	—	85 lb.	4 15 0

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Goats	8	6 0 0	—	—	8	6 0 0
Guns	5	16 0 0	—	10 10 0	5	26 10 0
Gunpowder	282¼ lb.	43 5 0	4 lb.	1 0 0	286¼ lb.	44 5 0
Hams and bacon	821 lb.	42 15 0	1,987 lb.	102 15 0	2,808 lb.	145 10 0
Hardware	—	390 10 0	—	300 0 0	—	690 10 0
Hatchets	166$\frac{10}{12}$ doz.	144 0 0	8 doz.	9 0 0	175$\frac{10}{12}$ doz.	153 0 0
Hose	783 feet	15 0 0	—	—	783 feet	15 0 0
Honey	26 lb.	1 5 0	—	—	26 lb.	1 5 0
Hops	55 lb.	4 10 0	3 lb.	0 5 0	58 lb.	4 15 0
Implements (agricultural).	7 pkgs.	17 15 0	—	—	7 pkgs.	26 15 0
Implements (mining).	—	—	—	9 0 0	—	
	T. C. Q. L.				T. C. Q. L.	
Iron (galvanised)	10 5 3 14	246 10 0	15 cwt.	22 0 0	11 0 3 14	268 10 0
„ (castings)	2 cwt.	3 10 0	—	—	2 cwt.	3 10 0
Ironmongery	—	143 5 0	—	—	—	143 5 0
Iron hoops	—	—	11½ cwt.	8 15 0	11½ cwt.	8 15 0
Jams	1,715 lb.	48 10 0	3,156 lb.	90 0 0	4,871 lb.	138 10 0
Kerosene	1,108 gals.	71 5 0	200 gals.	24 0 0	1,308 gals.	95 5 0
Knives	138½ doz.	27 0 0	—	—	138½ doz.	27 0 0
Lard	350 lb.	20 0 0	—	—	350 lb.	20 0 0
Leatherware	5 pkgs.	36 5 0	—	0 15 0	5 pkgs.	37 0 0
Limejuice	22 gals.	4 15 0	—	—	22 gals.	4 15 0
Live stock	104	311 10 0	—	—	104	311 10 0
Maccaroni	14 lb.	0 15 0	—	—	14 lb.	0 15 0
Maizena	56 lb.	2 5 0	—	—	56 lb.	2 5 0
Maize	36 bshls.	11 15 0	16 bshls.	4 0 0	52 bshls.	15 15 0
Machines: sawing	1	94 10 0	—	—	1	94 10 0
Machines: sewing	9	40 0 0	—	—	9	40 0 0
Machines: printing	1	76 0 0	—	—	1	76 0 0
Machines: boring	1	2 0 0	—	—	1	2 0 0
Meat (preserved)	19,571 lb.	702 10 0	22,788 lb.	664 5 0	42,359 lb.	1,366 15 0
„ (salt)	27⅛ cwt.	48 10 0	53,564 lb.	788 0 0	58,602 lb.	836 10 0
„ (extract and potted).	163½ lb.	31 5 0	58½ lb.	18 0 0	222 lb.	49 5 0
Milk	108 doz.	38 15 0	465 doz.	186 5 0	573 doz.	225 0 0
Molasses	28 lb.	0 5 0	3,316 lb.	51 10 0	3,344 lb.	51 15 0
Mustard	105 lb.	7 0 0	—	—	105 lb.	7 0 0
Muntz metal	826 lb.	32 10 0	461 lb.	22 10 0	1,287 lb.	55 0 0
	T. C. Q. L.				T. C. Q. L.	
Nails	2 3 3 11	72 10 0	36 lb.	4 5 0	3 0 0 19	76 15 0
„	—	—	65 lb.	1 0 0	65 lb.	1 0 0
Nuts	—	—	12 lb.	1 0 0	12 lb.	1 0 0
Oakum	—	3 15 0	56 lb.	2 0 0	56 lb.	5 15 0
Oatmeal	230 lb.	3 5 0	5,306 lb.	68 10 0	5,536 lb	71 15 0

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Ores	1½ doz.	9 0 0	6 prs.	7 0 0	2½ doz.	16 0 0
Oil	194½ gals.	38 15 0	36½ gals.	9 10 0	231 gals.	48 5 0
Oilman's stores	—	106 5 0	—	4 0 0	—	110 5 0
Onions	C. Q. L. 10 1 8	19 15 0	2 cwt.	4 0 0	C. Q. L. 12 1 8	23 15 0
Paper bags	56 lb.	1 0 0	—	—	56 lb.	1 0 0
Paint	T. C. Q. L. 2 6 0 0	88 15 0	72 lb.	2 0 0	T. C. Q. L. 2 6 3 16	90 15 0
Paper (brown)	28 lb.	0 10 0	182 lb.	3 0 0	211 lb.	3 10 0
Peas and beans	12⅓ bshls.	4 0 0	—	—	12⅓ bshls.	4 0 0
Pearl shell	10 prs.	3 10 0	—	—	10 prs.	3 10 0
Pepper	32 lb.	2 0 0	—	—	32 lb.	2 0 0
Photographic plates.	2 cases	19 5 0	—	—	2 cases	19 5 0
Pickles	39 cases	17 15 0	50 doz.	33 10 0	—	51 5 0
Pipes (clay)	—	—	264 gross	35 0 0	264 gross	35 0 0
„ (wood)	—	—	26 doz.	12 0 0	26 doz.	12 0 0
Pitch	—	—	—	1 0 0	—	1 0 0
Plants	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poultry	—	1 10 0	—	—	—	1 10 0
Potatoes	T. C. Q. L. 1 17 0 21	25 0 0	22 cwt.	17 0 0	T. C. Q. L. 2 19 0 21	42 0 0
(preserved)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing machines.	2 pkgs.	5 10 0	—	—	2 pkgs.	5 10 0
Puddings (canned).	2 doz.	2 0 0	—	—	2 doz.	2 0 0
Rice	T. C. Q. L. 50 18 0 0	700 0 0	T. C. Q. L. 15 12 3 12	198 5 0	T. C. Q. L. 66 10 3 12	898 5 0
Rockets	6 doz.	10 10 0	—	—	6 doz.	10 10 0
Rope	9 cwt.	35 15 0	C. Q. L. 11 11 4	52 0 0	T. C. Q. L. 1 0 1 4	87 15 0
„ (wire)	—	—	41 lb.	1 5 0	41 lb.	1 5 0
Rum	16 gals.	8 5 0	36 gals.	16 15 0	52 gals.	25 0 0
Sacks	730	28 0 0	984	31 15 0	1,714	59 15 0
„ (corn)	—	—	67$\frac{19}{12}$ doz.	28 0 0	67$\frac{19}{12}$ doz.	28 0 0
Sago	126 lb.	2 15 0	77 lb.	1 0 0	203	3 15 0
Salt (coarse)	16½ cwt.	9 0 0	C. Q. L. 11 1 16	6 15 0	T. C. Q. L. 1 7 3 16	15 15 0
„ (table)	3¼ doz.	1 5 0	—	—	3¼ doz.	1 5 0
Sashes	10 prs.	17 5 0	—	—	10 prs.	17 5 0
Sarsaparilla	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sauce	19⅓ doz.	15 0 0	15 doz.	12 10 0	34⅓ doz.	27 10 0
Schnapps	2 gals.	1 10 0	—	—	2 gals.	1 10 0
Sheep	10	16 0 0	10	15 0 0	20	31 0 0
Shot	C. Q. L. 19 3 3	30 5 0	C. Q. L. 3 1 15	5 5 0	C. Q. L. 23 0 18	35 10 0
Soap	T. C. Q. L. 3 3 1 0	64 0 0	13 cwt.	12 5 0	T. C. Q. L. 3 16 1 0	76 5 0

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Soda	458 lb.	3 15 0	56 lb.	0 15 0	514 lb.	4 10 0
Soup	153 1/12 doz.	91 10 0	108 doz.	48 0 0	261 1/12 doz.	139 10 0
Spices	—	—	203 lb.	15 10 0	203 lb.	15 10 0
Spirits (methylated).	142 gals.	24 10 0	82 gals.	12 0 0	224 gals.	36 10 0
„ (liqueurs)	4 gals.	3 10 0	—	—	4 gals.	3 10 0
Stationery	—	34 15 0	—	9 5 0	—	44 0 0
Starch	80 lb.	2 0 0	—	—	80 lb.	2 0 0
	T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.	
Sugar	6 14 1 14	199 5 0	10 3 0 17	276 0 0	16 17 2 3	475 5 0
Sundries	—	24 15 0	—	0 5 0	—	25 0 0
Syrups	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tanks	10	53 15 0	—	—	10	53 15 0
Tar	65 gals.	10 10 0	20 gals.	3 10 0	85 gals.	14 0 0
Tea	868 lb.	62 10 0	1,842 lb.	118 0 0	2,710 lb.	180 10 0
Timber	22,002 feet	378 15 0	2,200 feet	32 10 0	24,202 feet	411 5 0
Tinware	—	2 10 0	—	—	—	2 10 0
	T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.	
Tobacco	5 16 1 8¼	771 15 0	3 14 0 22	502 15 0	9 10 2 4¼	1,274 10 0
Turpentine	23 gals.	5 5 0	—	—	23 gals.	5 5 0
Twine	60 hanks	4 5 0	—	0 15 0	60 hanks.	5 0 0
Type	1 pkg.	4 0 0	—	—	1 pkg.	4 0
Varnish	7 gals.	5 5 0	—	—	7 gals.	5 5 0
Vaseline	5 lb.	0 15 0	—	—	5 lb.	0 15 0
	C. Q. L.		C. Q. L.		T. C. Q. L.	
Vegetables (tinned).	6 3 4	29 0 0	19 3 15	49 5 0	1 6 2 19	78 5 0
„ (fresh)	2 cases	1 0 0	3 cwt.	4 0 0	4 cwt.	5 0 0
Vestas	62⅓ gross	38 0 0	202 gross	147 10 0	264⅓ gross	185 10 0
Vinegar	79½ gals.	12 5 0	34 gals.	7 0 0	113½ gals.	19 5 0
Wads (gun)	—	2 15 0	—	—	—	2 15 0
Waters (aërated)	49 doz.	11 10 0	10 doz.	2 0 0	59 doz.	13 10 0
Wheat	12 bshls.	2 10 0	—	—	12 bshls.	2 10 0
Whisky	62 gals.	46 15 0	258 gals.	153 15 0	320 gals.	200 10 0
Wine (sparkling)	2½ gals.	4 15 0	—	—	2½ gals.	4 15 0
„	704½ gals.	160 0 0	100 gals.	53 10 0	804½ gals.	213 10 0
Wire netting	750 yds.	15 15 0	—	0 10 0	750 yds.	16 5 0
	C. Q. L.				C. Q. L.	
„ rigging	1 0 5	3 5 0	—	—	1 0 5	3 5 0
Wooden ware	—	35 10 0	—	—	—	35 10 0
Total		9,305 10 0		6,798 13 0		16,104 3 0

H.M. Customs, Port Moresby,
12th August 1890.

F. E. LAWES,
Collector of Customs.

British New Guinea.

Exports from the Possession.

Exports from Port Moresby and Samarai from the 1st July 1889 to the 30th June 1890.

Article.	Port Moresby.		Samarai.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Bêche-de-Mer	16 tons 10 cwt.	665 0 0	53 tons 15 cwt.	4,017 0 0	70 tons 5 cwt.	4,682 0 0
Birds	2 cases	29 0 0	—	—	2 cases	29 0 0
Brandy	8 gals.	5 0 0	—	—	8 gals.	5 0 0
Cocoanuts	—	—	1,800	5 0 0	1,800	5 0 0
Copra	—	—	43 tons	250 0 0	43 tons	250 0 0
Curiosities	4 pkgs.	55 0 0	—	—	4 pkgs.	55 0 0
Doors	1 pkg.	1 10 0	—	—	1 pkg.	1 10 0
Drapery	2 pkgs.	28 0 0	—	—	2 pkgs.	28 0 0
Diving pump	—	—	1	100 0 0	1	100 0 0
Natural History specimens.	—	40 0 0	—	—	—	40 0 0
Gum	—	—	2 tons	30 0 0	2 tons	30 0 0
Meats (salt)	1,600 lbs.	27 5 0	—	—	1,600 lbs.	27 5 0
Pearl-shell	—	—	12 tons 5 cwt.	1,050 0 0	12 tons 5 cwt.	1,050 0 0
Sundries	6 pkgs.	50 0 0	—	—	6 pkgs.	50 0 0
Turtle-shell	3 cwt.	90 0 0	12 lbs.	6 0 0	3 cwt. 12 lbs.	96 0 0
Wallaby skins	1 bale	5 0 0	—	—	1 bale	5 0 0
Wine	8 gals.	1 10 0	—	—	8 gals.	1 10 0
		997 5 0		5,458 0 0		6,455 5 0

F. E. Lawes,
Collector of Customs.

H.M. Customs, Port Moresby,
8th August 1890.

Statement of Navigation, showing the Nationality, Number, and Tonnage of Foreign-going Merchant Vessels entered and cleared at the Ports of the Possession (Ships of War not included).

Nationality.	Vessels.	Entered. 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.		Cleared. 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.	
		Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
	Port Moresby.				
British	Sailing	19	1,925	18	1,752
	Steam	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Total	19	1,925	18	1,752
Other Nations		Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Nationality.	Vessels.	Entered. 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.		Cleared. 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.	
		Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
	SAMARAI.				
British	Sailing	26	1,802	27	1,768
	Steam	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil
	Total	26	1,802	27	1,768
Other Nations		Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Total	26	1,802	27	1,768
	TOTALS.				
Port Moresby		19	1,925	18	1,752
Samarai		26	1,802	27	1,768
	Total	45	3,727	45	3,520

Vessels—Coastwise.

	PORT MORESBY.				
British	Sailing	25	1,264	28	1,578
	Steam	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Total	25	1,264	28	1,578
Other Nations		Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	SAMARAI.				
British	Sailing	22	906	23	1,189
	Steam	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Total	22	906	23	1,189
Other Nations		Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	TOTALS.				
Port Moresby		25	1,264	28	1,578
Samarai		22	906	23	1,189
	Total	47	2,170	51	2,767

H.M. Customs, Port Moresby,
11th August 1890.

F. E. LAWES,
Collector of Customs.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Return of the Number of Letters, Packets, and Newspapers received and despatched by the Post Offices at Port Moresby and Samarai from 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.

—	Received.			Despatched.		
	Letters.	Packets.	Newspapers.	Letters.	Packets.	Newspapers.
Port Moresby - -	2,556	102	5,219	2,123	77	582
Samarai - -	610	9	1,625	463	7	8
Total - -	3,166	111	6,844	2,586	84	590

F. E. LAWES,
Postmaster.

Port Moresby,
8th August 1890.

APPENDIX P.

REVENUE.

Statement of Revenue collected at British New Guinea from the 1st July 1889 to the 30th June 1890.

Head of Revenue.	Amount.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
CUSTOMS REVENUE—		
Import duties - - - - - -	2,851 17 9	
Bond dues - - - - - -	38 16 6	
Sale of customs forms - - - - -	2 16 1	
		2,893 10 4
GOLDFIELDS REVENUE—		
Miners' rights - - - - - -	8 15 0	
Business licenses - - - - -	12 0 0	
		20 15 0
FEES, FINES, AND LICENSES—		
Shipping Fees - - - - - -	4 10 0	
Central Court fees - - - - -	3 0 0	
Fines - - - - - - -	41 10 0	
Lighter licenses - - - - -	1 0 0	
Custom House agents' licenses - - - -	10 0 0	
		60 0 0
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS—		
Refundments, &c. - - - - -	28 14 0	
Passenger fares, schooner "Hygeia" - - -	12 14 0	
		41 8 0
Total - - - -	—	3,015 13 4

A. MUSGRAVE,
Treasurer, British New Guinea.

Brisbane,
16th August 1890.

EXPENDITURE.

Statement of Expenditure from 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.

Appropriation as per British New Guinea Ordinance No. IV. of 1889.	Particulars.	Expenditure.	Balances.	
			Unexpended.	In excess of Appropriation.
£ s. d.	SALARIES—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	CIVIL LIST ESTABLISHMENT—			
1,500 0 0	Administrator - - - -	1,500 0 0		
300 0 0	Private Secretary - - - -	300 0 0		
1,000 0 0	Judicial Officer - - - -	1,000 0 0		
500 0 0	Government Secretary - - -	500 0 0		
	TEMPORARY AND PROVISIONAL—			
500 0 0	Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division -	500 0 0		
300 0 0	Assistant Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division, and Warden, Louisiade Goldfield.	240 16 8	59 3 4	
500 0 0	Resident Magistrate, Western Division	397 4 5	102 15 7	
300 0 0	Collector of Customs, Port Moresby -	300 0 0		
275 0 0	Government Printer - - -	275 0 0		
250 0 0	Government agent at Rigo - -	236 17 10	13 2 2	
250 0 0	Gaoler and Overseer - - -	244 15 0	5 5 0	
200 0 0	Sub-Collector of Customs, Samarai -	187 4 7	12 15 5	
150 0 0	Government Storekeeper - - -	—	150 0 0	
	VESSELS AND BOATS—			
1,500 0 0	Schooner "Hygeia" - - -	1,802 14 5	—	302 14 5
250 0 0	Cutter "Maino" - - - -	205 18 5	44 1 7	
150 0 0	Whaleboat, Port Moresby - -	158 3 6	—	
100 0 0	Whaleboat, Samarai - - -	83 3 8	16 16 4	
350 0 0	Other boats and maintenance - -	314 3 0	35 17 0	
	MISCELLANEOUS—			
1,500 0 0	Allowances (house and travelling) -	2,548 3 2	—	1,048 3 2
1,000 0 0	Armed constabulary and prisons -	841 10 10	158 9 2	
100 0 0	Judicial - - - - -	17 0 2	82 19 10	
500 0 0	Printing and stationery - - -	195 3 9	304 16 3	
175 0 0	Library and scientific - - -	85 19 6	89 0 6	
750 0 0	Buildings - - - - -	1,144 19 3	—	394 19 3
200 0 0	Medical and sanitary - - -	69 15 5	130 4 7	
100 0 0	Presents to natives - - -	27 0 5	72 19 7	
300 0 0	Agricultural - - - -	137 11 9	162 8 3	
2,000 0 0	Unforeseen - - - -	1,661 19 7	338 0 5	
15,000 0 0	Total - - - -	14,975 5 4	1,778 15 0	1,754 0 4

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION.

Amount handed over by late Special Commissioner.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,512 13 6	EXPLORATION— Expenses in connexion with Fly River Expedition -	642 14 11	869 18 7
1,512 13 6	Total - - - - - -	642 14 11	869 18 7

A. MUSGRAVE,
Treasurer, British New Guinea.

Brisbane,
August 16, 1890.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of British New Guinea for the financial year ending on 30th June 1890, and find as follows :—

Revenue.

The total revenue paid by the local receivers to the Treasurer of British New Guinea during and on account of the financial year 1889–90, amounted to 3,015*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* This sum has been handed over to the Queensland Treasury, and appears below in "Amounts available for Distribution." The revenue has been derived chiefly from Customs, only 122*l.* 3*s.* having been obtained from other sources. The Treasurer has authenticated his statement by producing to me a cash book, some ships' manifests, and Custom House entries, also a cash book kept by the Collector of Customs, Port Moresby. The cash book kept by the Sub-Collector of Customs at Samarai was not produced. With these data the audit is far from exhaustive, and therefore unsatisfactory, as any but a local audit of revenue accounts must necessarily be.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year 1889–90, amounted to 14,975*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* The payments, with the exception of a few trifling discrepancies, have been correctly computed, and were supported by duly certified and acquitted vouchers, except in two instances, in which the cheques were produced to me before payment, and the receipts will be furnished when returned by the payees.

Amount handed over by the late Special Commissioner.

It having been agreed by the contributing Colonies that the balance handed over by the late Special Commissioner should be

expended in further explorations in British New Guinea, the sum mentioned in the certificate of audit for the previous year, viz., 1,466*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, and a sum of 45*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* obtained from the same source and retained to meet some outstanding accounts afterwards included in the expenditure for the year 1888–89, altogether 1,512*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* has been placed to a special account; of this, 642*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* has been expended, leaving 869*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* still available.

Contributions in Aid.

The following contributions have been received from the guaranteeing Colonies:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
From New South Wales to 30th June 1890 - - -	5,000	0	0
From Victoria to 31st May 1890	4,583	6	8
From Queensland to 30th June 1890 - - - -	5,000	0	0
	14,583	6	8
Amount due to 30th June 1890:—			
Victoria - - - -	416	13	4

Amounts available for Distribution.

The amounts available for distribution between the guaranteeing Colonies, in terms of paragraphs Nos. 2, 3, and 4 of the Second Schedule of the British New Guinea (Queensland) Act are as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Local revenue—			
1888–89 - - -	2,679	11	10
1889–90 - - -	3,015	13	4
Contributions by Western Australia—			
1888–89 - - -	161	16	9
1889–90 - - -	161	16	9
Unexpended balances of contributions from guaranteeing Colonies—			
1888–89 - - -	1,313	15	3
1889–90 - - -	24	14	8
	7,357	8	7

No distribution of the above has been made, as it is understood that correspondence is now going on with a view to expending a portion of the amount in supplementing the annual

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

subsidy granted by the Imperial Government for the working expenses of the Government steamer "Merrie England."

Separate certificates of audit have been given for the Imperial expenditure, viz.:—

"Merrie England."

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Repairs and alterations - -				959	5	6
Purchase of launch - -				694	6	4
Maintenance to 31st March 1890 -	5,375	15	8			
Less sundry credits -	221	9	6			
				5,154	6	2
Maintenance, quarter ending 30th June 1890 -	2,057	5	8			
Less sundry credits -	89	7	5			
				1,967	18	3
				8,775	16	3

E. DESHON,
Auditor General.

Department of Audit,
Brisbane, 23rd September 1890.

APPENDIX R.

Report of the Assistant Resident Magistrate for the Central Division.

Government Offices, Port Moresby, B.N.G.,
15th August, 1890.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour, for your Honour's information, to furnish the following report for the year ending 30th June 1890, on that part of the Possession which lies between the 145th and 148th degrees of E. long., and constitutes the Court of Petty Sessions for the central district or division.

2. *Natives.*—The natives in this district, especially in the vicinity of Port Moresby, have passed through a year of very great scarcity. They have in some places had a severe struggle to obtain sufficient food to keep themselves alive. Deaths from starvation have been reported (mostly of very young and old people) at other places, but the dearth of food was most felt in the Rigo district. There the villages were in some instances broken up, as the inhabitants wandered away to search for food. Pari,

Vapukori, Borebada, and Boera, and other neighbouring coast villages endured much privation, and had to depend for months almost wholly on their fisheries, although they are not especially skilful at this industry. This famine was caused by the drought of the two previous years.

The Government relieved the Rigo district by contributing food and trade. Those who were able to do so had to work for an allowance of food and tobacco, whilst those who were too young or infirm were supplied with a certain quantity free. A fund was raised by the Rev. W. G. Lawes for the relief of those in the immediate neighbourhood of Port Moresby, and subscribed to by all the European residents.

To the westward, from Redscar Bay to the Gulf of Papua, the people were better off, but even for some of them, if they occupy dry country, it has also been a year of unusual trial. They generally, however, grow more food than is sufficient for their subsistence, and barter some of their surplus. To add to the troubles of those near Port Moresby, the "Hiri," or trading voyage for sago to the west, turned out a failure for most of them. The people of Pari started earlier than their usual date in September, hoping to return by the first breath of the north-west monsoon. Venturing back too soon, they were washed ashore at Maiva, and all their cargo was destroyed. They then, however, went again to the westward and refilled the canoes; but one of these foundered in the second journey homewards. Vapukori lost both "lakatois," and the Port Moresby people had to jettison a large proportion of their cargo. Borobada and Boera were likewise unfortunate. These losses are a serious matter, as each "lakatoi" holds on an average from 25 to 30 tons of sago, and in addition to its value as a food, it is a common article of barter besides. I regret in this connexion to mention the total wreck of one Maiva trading canoe with her crew of eight natives, who were all drowned.

3. *Larceny.*—As a consequence of the famine, cases of theft have been prevalent. Children who were abandoned by their parents wandered into other people's gardens and stole things out of them. The native punishment for stealing food, especially in hard times, unfortunately, is death. In nearly every case of murder brought before the courts this year theft has been the sole reason. Apart from these graver offences, a certain number of cases of petty larceny have also been before the court. Most of these came from Rigo district, chiefly because a Government agent being stationed there with constabulary powers, he could take prompter cognizance of complaints. Fortunately the present season has been a favourable one, consequently the crops are good, and native food is again fairly plentiful.

4. *Murders.*—There have been 26 cases of murder brought before the court. Most of these happened at the beginning of the year. I am glad to be able to report that the natives are now beginning to realise that murders will not be passed over by the Government, and are beginning themselves to arrest and hand over criminals to

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

justice instead of resorting to the use of the spear. I am pleased at being able to state that the long-standing feud between Maiva and Kivori appears to have ended since your Honour's visit to that district. The Maivans have lately been in here, and report that they and the people of Kivori now interchange friendly visits with each other.

5. *Prisoners.*—46 prisoners in all have been confined in the gaol at Port Moresby during the past year, 40 of whom were natives. Five of the native prisoners, whose sentences were commuted from capital punishment, it was thought desirable to transfer to the second gaol in the Possession at Samarai. 27 persons were released at the expiration of their terms, and two escaped from prison, but were recaptured. A sickly state prevailed amongst the prisoners in July and August of 1889, but their health subsequently has been good, and together with the Papuan boat's crew they have performed a great deal of useful work in and about the township, such as making roads, renewing fences, building boathouse, making stone jetty, preparing site, &c., for the new gaol, besides other duties—weeding pathways, discharging Government goods from vessels, assisting in coaling the steamer "Merrie England," &c., &c.

The prisoners are always employed at outdoor work from about 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., one hour being allowed at noon for dinner. They do not work on Sundays or on Saturday afternoons. They get three meals a day, and are allowed a little tobacco. Their rations consist of rice, biscuits, and meat, with local vegetables when procurable. Latterly fresh vegetables have been constantly supplied to them. Two warders under the head gaoler superintend their work.

Divine service is held by one of the native mission students of the London Missionary Society every Sunday at the gaol.

The maximum number of prisoners in the gaol at any one time was 17, and the minimum number nine.

6. *Wider Intercourse among Natives.*—So far as the natives of this district are concerned progress during the year has been satisfactory. They have begun to understaud our institutions better; they avail themselves more and more of the courts and our mediation to settle disputes; and they appreciate the friendly intercourse that has sprung up between them and natives of other places, with whom previously they had hardly held any dealings.

The Saroa and Rigo people now fearlessly go to the villages on the Kemp-Welch river, a proceeding that they were never known to take before. Kapakapa people have also been to Aroma, and Aroma people continually come to Port Moresby. These visits are mostly for the purpose of trading. This is quite a new feature in native life in these parts, and very encouraging as to the native policy. No foreigners have been molested in this district during the past year. Several prospectors and collectors explored and travelled inland from different points during the year, and everywhere they were treated with kindness and attention by the natives.

7. *Public Roads.*—One of the most useful works done during the past year has been the making of the road from Port Moresby to Aroma. This work, commenced at the beginning of the year by the late Government agent at Rigo, was a great help to the inhabitants of the district during the late famine, since all natives in the vicinity willing to work were employed on its construction. The road is now completed from Tupuselei to the Kemp-Welch river above Kalo. From Tupuselei it runs through Konebada, Vadili, Veiburi, Manukoro, Bono, thence to Rigo station, a distance of some 25 miles. From Rigo station eastward it goes through all the principal villages to the Kemp-Welch river. A suitable crossing through this large stream proved difficult to find, but the present Government agent has selected a fording with a depth of only 2 feet of water in the south-east season. Roads have also been cut from Rigo station to Saroa and Rigo villages, and to the sea coast village of Kapakapa. It will be practicable in a short time by these roads to travel on horseback without difficulty from Port Moresby to Kerupunu (Hood's Lagoon).

8. *Cocoanut Plantation.*—Another useful work begun in the past year is the formation of a cocoanut plantation at Daugo, one of the Fisherman Islands, close to Port Moresby. A contract was entered into in December last with Mr. R. Hunter for planting 5,000 nuts. These nuts were mostly obtained from the Gulf of Papua, being better and larger than those that could be procured in the neighbourhood. They were placed under shade in a nursery, but when properly sprouted it was found to be too late in the season to plant out the whole number. Some 1,500 of the most vigorous young plants were, however, set out in pits excavated to the extent of one cubic yard on a Ceylon system. The remainder were left in the nursery to await the following wet season. Those planted out have, however, thriven well, owing to the exceptionally wet weather in the south-east monsoon of this year, only two of the above 1,500 having died. Those left in the nursery are also thriving well. Owing to the formation of the island the plantation has been divided into three separate blocks. The first plot, already partly planted, is on the north east corner of the island. The larger plot will be on the west and south-west portions of the island. A good track, 6 feet wide, connecting the two future groves, has been made across the whole length of the island. By the beginning of the coming wet season all the 5,000 nuts will have been planted out.

9. *Gardens, &c.*—A small botanical garden, with an area of some three acres, has been fenced and laid out near to Government House. It has been planted with certain fruit trees, coffee, jute, millet, ground nuts, maize, and several species of vegetables, &c., &c. The trees suffered severely from grasshoppers, which swarmed during the late drought. The growth of the plants has on the whole, however, been very encouraging, especially in the case of the millet and maize. There is an abundant spring above the garden, which slopes gently from the foot of the coast range in a south-westerly direction, and is well drained and easily irrigated.

It is also well sheltered from the south-east monsoon. A useful food plantation has also been established at Rigo station, which promises to contribute valuable supplies of vegetables for natives, constables, prisoners, &c. Fencing, clearing, and many other minor improvements were effected at this Government post by the late Mr. George Hunter, who filled the office of Government agent there during the year under review.

10. *Gaol.*—A new gaol has been commenced at Port Moresby, more especially intended for native prisoners confined under long sentences. The walls and divisions will be of strong red mangrove beams, on which will be placed a ceiling, also of the same material. Over this there will be a roof of galvanised iron, sheltering, but not attached to, the main building. This will contain eight cells, 10 feet by 10 feet, floored with hard wood. The ground round the prison has been thoroughly cleared and a sufficient number of drains cut to relieve the ground of surface water in the rainy season. The site chosen is on the south side of the township of Granville West, and is a gently sloping one. The present prison, or "lock-up," is a small wooden and galvanised iron structure, containing three cells 10 feet by 10 feet, and was erected during the Protectorate, but not intended for other than short-sentenced prisoners.

11. *Fencing and Stock.*—About 3 miles of wire fencing round the Government paddocks at Port Moresby has been renewed; the original fence was put up during the Protectorate. A new and improved fence of wire netting has also been placed round the garden at Ilimo Cottage, Port Moresby, which is used for "quarters" for one of the Government officers. The increase in the number of Government horses and cattle has been satisfactory during the past year. The growth of the young stock has been rapid, and the breeding animals show good condition and are now thoroughly acclimatised. The conscientious care of this, as well as all other Government property entrusted to the charge of the overseer and head gaoler, Mr. D. Gleeson, deserves distinct recognition.

12. *Boathouse.*—A roomy boathouse of local material, viz., mangrove framing and nipa-palm thatch, has been built at Granville West, and supplied with two sets of hardwood rails carrying cradles for launching the boats, &c.

13. *Jetty.*—The construction of a stone jetty has been begun next to the coalshed, Granville West, close to the Government offices. It will shortly be finished, and prove of much use in unloading or shipping goods at low water when the fringing reef within the harbour is difficult of approach.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. E. LAWES,
Assistant Resident Magistrate.

His Honour
Sir Wm. MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G., &c.
Administrator of British New Guinea.

APPENDIX S.

Report of the Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division.

SIR, Samarai, 8th August 1890.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Honour's information, on the affairs of the Eastern Division of the Possession during the period 1st July 1889 to 30th June 1890.

Native Affairs.

It is gratifying to be able to report that during the period under notice the state of the natives has been, on the whole, most satisfactory. They have, over a great portion of the district, acquired great confidence in the Government, and great numbers visit Samarai from the several districts of East Cape and Milne Bay, from the islands to the eastward, Sariba, Sidea, and Basilaki, the Engineer Group and Teste Island, and from the districts between this point and Suau. Three cases only of murder have come under my notice—one at Lelehudi, where a native, by name Tuguletauiohi, killed a woman named Bohinori in March last. This does not appear to have been a premeditated murder. The man and woman quarrelled over some garden work, and the woman struck the man on the head with a stick; he retaliated with a stone, which struck her on the breast and killed her—this is the man's own statement. I have as yet been unable to find that any other natives were present. He is now under arrest. A case of murder at Nuakata and one at Ahioma have been reported lately; but I have not as yet secured the culprits. Two white men, Albert Kickbush and his mate Neilson, were murdered in November last at Murua (Woodlark Island); three of the murderers have been arrested and are now awaiting trial. Frank Rochfort and James McTier were murdered by natives of Cloudy Bay in August of last year. The case did not come before me, although in my district, but was dealt with from Port Moresby, to which it was more convenient.

In June of last year a man, by name J. J. Brown, reported that he had come into collision with some natives at Misima (St. Aignan), and had in self-defence killed three. Brown surrendered himself at Port Moresby in February of this year, and was remanded to this district so that the case might be investigated. It, however, was found that Mr. Brown's statement was false, and that he had trumped up the story for the sake of notoriety. Davy, a native of Fiji, was in April sentenced to four months' imprisonment for destroying native houses at the village of Tabegana, at the east end of Sudest; and a native of Manilla, by name Tom Manilla, committed for trial in February for the murder of a native of Welle Island, in Dawson Straits, has since been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. These cases are mentioned here on account of natives being concerned in them.

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Among the various tribes in the best known parts of the district good order prevails; in most parts intertribal quarrels are things of the past, and I have heard of no cases of pilfering from gardens, which offence was very prevalent before the declaration of Sovereignty.

Yakoba and Komadoa, native agents at Mita and Porotona respectively, have been of use to me, but neither of them appear to have much influence outside their immediate vicinity. The two districts, however, are a very useful basis from which to work surrounding tribes.

During July last year there was some friction caused between myself and the natives of Maiwara through the actions of two natives who live on Aleford Island. These men are by way of being missionaries—that is, they are offshoots from the Killerton Island Mission Station, who have taken upon themselves to become teachers and law givers to the people. They are not recognised by the London Mission Society. They threatened the Maiwara people that if they did not come to church (?) I would come up and shoot some of them, and put others in the gaol at Samarai. The Maiwara people then said that if I went there they would kill me. On hearing of this I went to Maiwara and found them all armed, but they made no attempt to attack me. I explained to them that the self-styled teachers had no right to use the name of the Government as a means of obtaining congregations, and that the Government certainly would not use compulsion to make them attend church. I severely cautioned the offenders. The Maiwara people have since been on the best of terms with us, and come to Samarai in considerable numbers. The district is a large one, and would be a very good field for a competent teacher.

At the eastern end of the district (St. Aignan and the Louisiades) I am sorry to say native matters have not been satisfactory. On St. Aignan and Sudest cases of pilfering from miners are everyday occurrences, though it must be said that the temptation of an open tent is a great one to a native, but it is very hard on the miners, who at the best of times make but a bare living, to return from work and find their camps pillaged. The miners themselves have acted very fairly on the whole to the natives, and one good point in their favour is that never since the commencement of the gold workings in this district have I heard of a single case of tampering with native women.

A large number of natives are employed in the various boats fishing for bêche-de-mer, &c. During the period in which a correct registration has been in force October, 1889, to 30th June 1890, 250 natives have been shipped, and on the 30th June 61 were still employed. The strict carrying out of the Native Employment Ordinance has been a great assistance in gaining the confidence of the natives, although I should like to see some slight additions to the regulations, principally one which would provide against natives in one magisterial district being shipped for probable service in another. Unless boat articles are carried, or it is made law that the natives must be paid off at the port of

shipment, abuses are almost certain to occur. Taking it on the whole, the employers of labour are a fair-dealing class, and treat the natives well, although of course they are quite ready, as a rule, to pay as little as possible for their labour. For this reason I have made a rule that natives must be paid in kind, and that the goods must be inspected by the officer before whom the payments take place, so that the natives may get a fair return for their services.

In October of last year a quarrel occurred between several natives of Nawabu in Farm Bay, in which three men were killed and several wounded. I inquired into the matter and reported thereon in December last, but have taken no further action, as both the instigators were killed and the tribe had settled down quietly. There has been no further trouble with them.

Food has been very plentiful in the district during the past 12 months, and there is every chance of this satisfactory state of things continuing.

Administration of Justice.

During the period the following cases have come under my jurisdiction :—

1889, July 25.—Assaulting a native, fourteen days' imprisonment.
„ December 15.—Supplying liquor to South Sea Islander, fined 20*l.*
1890, January 15. — Murder, sentenced on 1st July, 10 years' imprisonment.
„ February 17.—Disorderly conduct, one month's imprisonment.
„ February 17.—Supplying native arms, one month's imprisonment.
„ March 4.—Murder, on remand.
„ April 10.—Murder, discharged.
„ April 14. — Supplying dynamite to a native, one month's imprisonment.
„ April 4. — Wilful destruction of property, four months' imprisonment.
„ May 28.—Assault, discharged.

Your Honour will observe that there has not been any case as yet of liquor being supplied to an aboriginal ; the only case being one in which it was given to a South Sea Islander. In one case a revolver was given to a native of Rabi.

During the year 12 prisoners were received into the gaol, and nine discharged. There were serving sentences on 30th June the following :—

1889, July 25. — Kamaramarava, murder, 10 years' penal servitude, transferred from Port Moresby.
„ May 30.—Misikaro, murder, five years' penal servitude, transferred from Port Moresby.

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1890, July 1.—Tom Manilla, murder, 10 years.
„ July 1.—Tuguletauioho, murder, on remand.
1889, October 22.—Bokalakava, murder, 10 years' penal servitude, transferred from Port Moresby.
„ October 22.—Gaibori, murder, 10 years' penal servitude, transferred from Port Moresby.
1890, April 4.—Davy, Fiji, wilful destruction of property, four months.

Firearms Permits.

During the year I have issued firearms permits to the following persons:—

For period ending 31st December 1889.

No. 10. 1889, August 10.—Dick, native of Malayta, 1 rifle, 1 revolver.
No. 11. „ August 21.—Joseph Zambi, native of Mauritius, 1 revolver.
No. 12. „ August 21.—Serillo Resto, native of Manilla, 1 gun, 1 revolver.
No. 13. „ September 21.—Willy, native of Tanna, 1 rifle.
No. 14. „ December 12.—*George, native of Mari, 1 rifle.
No. 15. „ December 12.—*Moses, native of Oba, 1 rifle.
No. 16. „ December 12.—*Willy, native of Lifu, 1 rifle.
No. 17. „ December 12.—*A. de Simon, native of Singapore, 1 rifle.
No. 18. „ December 12.—*Charlie, native of Lifu, 1 rifle.

For period ending 31st December 1890.

No. 19. 1890, January 1.—Serillo Resto, native of Manilla, 1 rifle, 1 gun, 1 revolver.
No. 20. „ January 17.—Joseph, native of Manilla, 1 rifle, 1 gun.
No. 21. „ January 18.—Dick, native of Malayta, 1 rifle, 1 revolver.
No. 22. „ January 23.—Ah Gim, native of China, 1 rifle, 1 gun.
No. 23. „ January 23.—Sulieman, native of Manilla, 1 gun.
No. 24. „ January 23.—Wm. Trass, native of Fiji, 1 rifle.
No. 25. „ January 24.—Peter Manilla, native of Manilla, 1 rifle, 1 revolver.
No. 26. „ January 24.—Joseph Zambi, native of Mauritius, 1 revolver.
No. 27. „ February 18.—Francis Augustus, native of Manilla, 1 rifle.

No. 28. 1890, February 18. — Frank Murray, native of Maré, 1 rifle.
No. 29. „ March 13.—Ah See, native of China, 1 gun.
No. 30. „ April 13. — Francis Augustine, native of Manilla, 1 gun.
No. 31. „ June 2. — Joe, native of Erromanga, 1 revolver.

Those names marked thus * are those of men who held permits during the time they were employed by Signor Loria, who entered into a bond for their good behaviour and to return the permits to the nearest Government officer upon any of them leaving his service. I forwarded the bond to the Government Secretary, and I believe the terms have been complied with.

Mining.

During the period mining matters have been very quiet, very little gold being got. The population of either place has not during the past 12 months exceeded 150, and now at St. Aignan there are about 50, and at Sudest 70. The health of the men has been fairly good on both islands during the past six months. It is impossible to give any idea of the amount of gold exported, as vessels clear direct from this point for Cooktown, viâ the islands, and do not declare the quantity of gold they have on board. Indeed, the men generally keep the knowledge of what gold they have to themselves, and the masters of the vessels consequently cannot tell how much they actually have on board.

In June last year 37 men passed through Samarai to Normanby Island for prospecting purposes, and some few went by chance means from Misima and Tagula. They found only faint colours, and suffered very much in health, many of them dying. I sent 15 away to Queensland by H.M. ships ill and destitute, and the prospecting was abandoned until lately, when a party of four have been again prospecting with little success. No work has been done on any other islands since my last report, and it appears likely that Misima will be abandoned in a few months' time.

Accidents and Deaths.

Deaths have, I am sorry to say, been frequent during the past 12 months. Those which have been reported are detailed below :—

1889, July 25.—Nadieman, Gigia, bursting gun.
„ July 31.—Jas Nolan, Normanby Island, fever; prospector.
„ August 6.—Harry Hotson, Brooker Island, fever; prospector.
„ September 5.—Pat. Brennan, Spike Island, fever; prospector.

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1889, September 11.—Nicholas Wallace, Normanby Island, fever; prospector.
„ September 12.—Samuel Sparks, Normanby Island, fever; prospector.
„ September 18.—Peter Christophersen, Samarai, fever; prospector.
„ August 18.—Thomas Reilly, Sudest, fever.
„ August 25.—Martin Lalor, Sudest, fever.
„ September 1.—Name unknown, Sudest, fever.
„ September 12.—Edward Trevor, Sudest, old age.
„ October 4.—Thos. Williams, Sudest, fever, on "Wanganui."
„ October 18.—Mathew Bell, Sudest, fever.
„ December 26.—Jas. Armstrong, St. Aignan, fever.
„ December 29.—George Harris, Sudest, fever.
1890, January 8.—Robert Wilson, Sudest, fever.

In addition to these, several deaths which were not reported occurred at St. Aignan. The following are the names, but in many cases the Christian names could not be obtained nor the dates of their deaths:—

One old man name unknown, Morant, Mackenzie, James Gay, Jas. Harris, one man name unknown.

A party of four men died on the north coast of Normanby, of fever, about November last. Nothing was known of them until some weeks afterwards. The name of one was H. H. Robinson, of No. 6, Commercial Square, Lewes, Sussex, England, according to a pocket book found at their old camp. A passenger ticket, in the name of Peter Nichols was found also. Of the other two men I never learnt anything. This matter was fully reported on by me in a letter to the Government Secretary, dated 2nd January.

The total amount of customs duties collected at this point, less rebates, during the year ending 30th June has been 1,434*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*

The total imports amounted to a value of 6,798*l.* 13*s.* (*Vide* Appendix O.)

Total exports, 5,458*l.* (*Vide* Appendix O.)

Return of letters, packets, and newspapers received and despatched. (*Vide* Appendix O.)

Statement of navigation. (*Vide* Appendix O.)

I have, &c.

BINGHAM A. HELY.

APPENDIX T.

Report by Baron Ferd. von Mueller, K.C.M.G., M. and Ph.D., F.R.S., on Botanical Specimens.

The access to our knowledge of the Papuan Flora, derived from Sir William MacGregor's collections in 1890, has been again important. Foremost as a result we have learnt from these contributions that a considerable number of Australian species of plants, which, as such, were hitherto regarded as quite endemic, are likewise indigenous to the vicinity of the Mai-Kussa and Wasi-Kussa in New Guinea. Thus they occur precisely opposite to Cape York, from whence the seeds may have been carried across by migratory birds or perhaps by some other agencies. These, otherwise only Australian, plants may, therefore, not really belong to the primitive vegetation of New Guinea, though they are now established in such a way as not to admit of distinguishing them in regard to their nativity from the great bulk of the lowland species, whether truly Papuan or simultaneously also Malayan. The occurrence has already been demonstrated before of the following lowland plants of specific Australian type in various parts of New Guinea:—*Eupomatia laurina, Kennedya retusa, Acacia Simsii, A. holosericea, Eucalyptus clavigera, Tristania suaveolens, Pimelea cornucopiæ, Stackhousia viminea, Passiflora aurantia, Panax Murrayi, Notothixos subaureus, Grevillea gibbosa, Banksia dentata, Wedelia spilanthoides, Clerodendron floribundum, Josephinia grandiflora, Hypoxis hygrometrica, Geitonoplesium cymosum, Arthropodium strictum, Smilax australis, Xerotes Banksii, Andropogon australis, Schœnus calostachyus, Leptaspis Banksii,* and *Dawsonia superba,* nearly all otherwise strictly Australian, irrespective of Alpine species, and of such as are of jointly Australian and Sundaic type. To these can now be added, through the circumspect action of the Administrator of British New Guinea:—*Drosera petiolaris, Halfordia drupifera, Muehlenbeckia rhyticarpa, Eucalyptus tereticornis, E. terminalis, Melaleuca symphocarpa, Metrosideros paradoxa, Fenzlia obtusa, Modecca australis, Alyxia spicata, Mitrasacme elata, Plectranthus longicornis, Hæmodorum coccineum, Gahnia aspera, Eriachne squarrosa, E. pallescens.*

It can now further be shown that the cedar (or rather cedrel), of which many timber shipments have been brought already to Australian ports, is identical with the Singapore Cedar (*Cedrela Toona*). For the magnificent and renowned acquatic plant, *Nelumbo nucifera,* has now also been indicated a natural location on the upper Fly river. Some other plants, unknown from New Guinea before, such as *Polygala Chinensis, Salomonia oblongifolia, Sesuvium Portulacastrum, Leptospermum Javanicum,* and *Limnophila gratioloides,* become recorded from the Administrator's last

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gatherings, while some more are awaiting yet careful comparative elucidation for fixing safely their systematic position. Count Solms-Laubach, the Monographer of Pandaneæ, has acknowledged the validity of the Screw Pine from Ferguson Island, in the Louisiades, as a new species under the name *P. Macgregorii*.

An extensive treatise of my own emanated from Sir William MacGregor's Highland plants, obtained during his memorable expedition of last year. This essay has appeared in the recent quarto volume of the Royal Society of Victoria. But while engaged for extensive and responsible extra duties in the cause of science towards the end of 1889, and in the commencement of 1890, I could examine myself only a few of the ferns, brought from the upper region of the Owen Stanley Range; among them, however, is the new *Cyathea Macgregorii*, which reaches a higher regional elevation than any other of the many kinds of fern trees now known. To expedite, therefore, the determining of their specific position, I induced the special pteridologist, J. G. Baker, at the great Kew Establishment, to bring his particular experience to bear for defining systematically the approximately 70 species of *Ficilis* and *Lycopodiaceæ*, contained in Sir William MacGregor's collection from the Owen Stanley ranges. Among these proved of leading interest the *Aspidium Filix mas*, the popular male fern of Britain, one of wide distribution through the cooler regions of the globe; but previously obtained neither in New Guinea nor in Australia, not even there in the Alpine Zone. Mr. Baker has considered 19 of these ferns as new, and therefore, so far as our present experience reaches, as exclusively Papuan. These hitherto unknown species are comprised within the genera:—*Cyathea*, *Hymenophyllum*, *Dicksonia*, *Davallia Lindsaya*, *Aspidium*, and largely *Polypodium*. His elaboration of all these ferns appeared in Britten's Journal of Botany, April, 1890.

I would also add yet my own tribute of recognition to Sir William MacGregor for the scientific air which has pervaded all his exertions, while under the greatest perils, vast toil, and frequent deprivations he and his followers courageously traversed so many wide regions undisclosed before to civilised man, whereby these exploratory itinerations, also the rural wealth, is sure to be extensively increased through close insight into the primeval vegetation.

FERD. VON MUELLER.

APPENDIX U.

New Guinea.—Report on Zoology for the year 1889 *by C. W. De Vis, M.A., Curator, Queensland Museum.*

Queensland Museum, 9th October 1890.

The interesting zoological results of the year covered by the last report could have been renewed in the present only by similar achievement in exploration From the effort of a year not

signalised by a bold foray into a distant mountain region of unknown wealth in animal life, less extension of our knowledge of Papuan nature could reasonably be expected. Yet that year has been far from barren. Even the expedition to the Fly river, travelling over well-beaten ground on which little that was likely to be noticed by passing eyes, was, at the same time, likely to be novel, brought in welcome accessions to our fund of information in the shape of species new either to science or to New Guinea, and that much yet remains on the very surface of observation to be discovered without going far afield is evident from the success which attended the visits of Mr. A. C. English to the well-known St. Joseph river but a day's sail from Port Moresby. It can, indeed, hardly be doubted that New Guinea will for many years continue to be a happy hunting ground for the naturalist.

In the present report it will appear that no new animal of the warm-blooded classes has been met with during the year; perhaps those remaining to be found in the coast country are both few and rare. By way of compensation, however, it may be observed that certain Australian birds, the Native Companion, White Ibis, and Royal Spoonbill, must now be included in the Papuan avifauna as at least temporary sojourners on the banks of the Fly river. It is noteworthy that these birds were found on the Fly river during the continuance in the north of Queensland of a drought which, before broken up in the south, had driven them from their haunts proper and scattered them far and wide in search of water. Of the reptiles, on the other hand, we are able to distinguish new forms, though few in number. These occur among the lizards, and in the name of one of them the zeal of their collector, Mr. English, has been commemorated. The accession of the handsome snakes, *Chondropython azureus* and *pulcher*, to the State collection of Papuan ophidians is a matter of gratulation.

On the whole the vertebrate collection is subordinate in importance and interest to that of the insect division of the invertebrates, and happily so, for with the insects of New Guinea its nearest neighbour should be better acquainted than it is. The whole of the insects collected have been committed for examination to the Keeper of the Entomological Department, from whom have been received the two reports on the *Lepidoptera* and *Coleoptera* respectively, which are hereunto appended. (*See* Appendix V.). From these it will be seen that Mr. Tryon's research has enabled him to select several species both of butterflies and beetles for approval as new introductions to science.

A feature conferring unusual interest upon the present collection is that it contains in many instances a large series of examples of the same insect, a matter in all cases to be desired, but all important in the case of variable forms whose unknown range of variation is a prolific source of error. Besides *Lepidoptera* and *Coleoptera* it contains many Hemiterous insects for the immediate determination of which time has not sufficed.

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The few forms of mollusca procured on the Fly river, a list of which will be found under Appendix V. have yielded to Mr. C. Hedley, who has reported upon them, but one new species fit for description, but this is a remarkably fine Nanina. A description of it is postponed until Mr. Hedley has completed his examination of the shells collected by himself in New Guinea.

List of Vertebrates collected on the Fly River.

Reporter: C. W. DE VIS.

MAMMALIA—

Marsupiata—

Cuscus maculatus, *Less. and Garn.*; adult and young.

AVES—

Psittacidæ—

Cyclopsittacus aruensis, *Schleg.*
Geoffroyus aruensis, *G. R. Gr.*

Cuculidæ—

Scythrops novæ-hollandiæ, *Lath.*

Bucerotidæ—

Rhytidoceros plicatus, *Penn.*

Alcedinidæ—

Tanysiptera hydrocharis, *G. R. Gr.*
Sauropatis chloris, *Bodd.*
Sauromarptis gaudichaudi, *Q. and G.*
Dacelo intermedius, *Salv.*
Melidora macrorhina, *Less.*

Artamidæ—

Artamus leucogaster, *Valenc.*

Laniidæ—

Cracticus quoyi, *Less.*
C. cassicus, *Bodd.*

Meliphagidæ—

Ptilotis versicolor, *Gld.*

Paradiseidæ—

Cincinnurus regius, *Lin.*

Gouridæ—

Goura sclateri, *Salvad.*

Rallidæ—

Megacrex inepta, *D'Alb. and Salvd*

Scolopacidæ—

Numenius cyanopus, *Vieill.*

Gruidæ—

Grus australasianus, *Gld.*

Ibididæ—
Threskiornis strictipennis, *Gld.*
Platalea regia, *Gld.*

Ardeidæ—
Ardea picata, *Gld.*
Herodias garzetta, *Lin.*
Butoroides javanica, *Horsf*

Casuariidæ—
Casuarius beccarii, *Sclat.*

List of Vertebrates collected by Mr. A. C. English on the St. Joseph River.

Reporter: C. W. DE VIS.

MAMMALIA—

Placentalia—
Cheiroptera—
Vesperugo pumilus, *Gr.*

Marsupiata—
Belidæus ariel, *Gld.*

REPTILIA—

Lacertilia—
Varanidæ—
Varanus prasinus, *Schleg.*
V. salvadorii, *Ptrs. and Dor.*
Agamidæ—
Gonyocephalus dilophus, *D. and B.*
Scincidæ—
Tiliquina—
Tiliqua gigas, *Schneid.*
Lygosomina—
Hinulia jobiensis, *Mey.*
Emoa pallidiceps (*n.s.*).*
E. cuneiceps (*n.s.*).*
Heteropus bicarinatus, *Macl.*
H. fuscus, *D. and B.*
Homolepida englishi (*n.s.*).*
Pygopodidæ—
Lialis burtonii, *Gr.*

Ophidia—
Pythonidæ—
Liasis amethystinus.
Chondropython azureus, *Mey.*
C. pulcher, *Sauv.*

* Described in Proceedings of Linnæan Society of New South Wales, 2nd ser., vol. 5, pt. 3.

British New Guinea.

List of Birds collected on the East Coast

Reporter: C. W. De Vis.

Falconidæ—
Haliastur girrenera, *Vieill.*
Milvus affinis, *Gld.*
Baza reinwardtii, *Müll. and Schleg.*

Strigidæ—
Ninox theomacha, *Bp.*
N. humeralis, *Hom. and Jac.*

Psittacidæ—
Eclectus pectoralis, *Müll.*
Lorius hypenochrous, *Gr.*

Alcedinidæ—
Sauropatis saurophaga, *Gld.*
Clytoceyx rex, *Shp.*
Melidora macrorhina, *Less.*

Coraciidæ—
Eurostomus pacificus, *Lath.*

Podargidæ—
Podargus papuensis, *Q. and G.*

Cypselidæ—
Macropteryx mystacea, *Less.*

Muscicapidæ—
Monarcha melanopsis, *Vieill.*
M. chalybeocephalus, *Garn.*

Dicruridæ—
Dicruropsis carbonaria, *Müll.*

Sturnidæ—
Mino dumonti, *Less.*

Paradiseidæ—
Manucodia atra, *Less.*
Paradisea raggiana, *Sclat.*
Cincinnurus regius, *Lin.*
Chlamydodera cerniviventris, *Gld.*

Treronidæ—
Ptilopus coronulatus, *G. R. Gr.*

Gouridæ—
Henicophaps albifrons, *G. R. Gr*

Calænatidæ—
Calænas nicobarica, *Lin.*

Megapodiidæ—
Megapodius duperreyi, *Less. and Garn.*

Charadiidæ—
Charadius fulvus, *Gm.*

GLARLOLIDÆ—
Hæmatopus longirostris, *Vieill.*

PELECANIDÆ—
Microcarbo melanoleucus, *Vieill.*
Sula leucogastra, *Bodd.*

LARIDÆ—
Anous stolidus, *Lin.*

APPENDIX V.

List of Coleoptera collected in the St. Joseph River District of British New Guinea by Mr. A. C. English.

By HENRY TRYON, Assistant Curator, Queensland Museum.

FAM. CICENDELIDÆ.

1. *Tricondyla aptera,* Olivier; several examples.

FAM. CARABIDÆ.

2. *Harpalus,* sp.; one example.

3. *Pœcilus ornatus,* sp. nov. *Male:* Head green, with purple reflections; labrum, prothorax, and elytra dark olive-green, the last two bordered externally by a broad band of bright green, the extreme margin being orange-yellow; under surface piceous, mandibles except their tips, six outer joints of antennæ, sternal portions of thoracic and hinder margins of abdominal segments red; palps, three basal joints of antennæ, and legs testaceous, the last-mentioned lighter externally; head densely finely punctured, reticulate-punctured between the eyes; prothorax impunctate, obscurely transversely rugose along mesial central impression and at the sides; interspaces between striæ of elytra with numerous scattered small punctures; a few larger punctures, also, on the third and fifth; hair on sides of elytra, and a long hair from each posterior lateral angle of prothorax rufous. Length 12 mm.

4. *Celia,* sp. A solitary example, probably referable to this genus of *Feronideæ.*

FAM. DYTISCIDÆ.

5. *Sternopriscus,* sp.; four examples.

6. *Cybister* (*Goddefroyi,* Wehncke)?; one example. The genus *Cybister* has not been previously recorded as represented in New Guinea.

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7. *Hydaticus*, sp. (1), allied to *H. bihamatus*, Aubé; three males.

8. *Hydaticus*, sp. (2); five males.

9. *Hydaticus*, sp. (3); one female.

NOTE.—These three species of *Hydaticus* do not correspond with any species of the genus already reported as occurring in New Guinea.

FAM. GYRINIDÆ.

10. *Dineutes Gouldi*, Hpe.; five examples.

11. *Enhydrus*, sp.; eight examples.

FAM. HYDROPHILIDEÆ.

12. *Hydrophilus*, sp. (1), aff. *H. Gayndahensis*, Macl.; three examples.

13. *Hyprophilus*, sp. (2); two examples.

14. *Sternolophus*, n. sp.; fourteen examples.—Description deferred.

15. *Sternolophus*; one example.

NOTE.—This solitary individual may represent the opposite sex to that of the last mentioned, and so be co-specific with it.

16. *Hydrobius*, sp.; three examples. A somewhat aberrant species, since it possesses both a narrow keel and a tubercle on the mesosternum.

17. *Hydrobius*, sp.; one example.

FAM. BYRRHIDÆ.

The collection contains examples of two species of *Byrrhidæ*. These are referred to the genus *Dendropinis*, Wollaston (Ent. Month. Mag. x. p. 33, 1873), although the necessity for excluding them from the older *Nesodendron*, Latr., does not appear to be very obvious. The New Guinea species recede from the latter genus, as defined by Lacordaire, in having the labium excavated in front, at least in *D. calva*, sp. nov., and in having the first four joints of the tarsi clothed beneath. From *Dendropinis*, Woll., they differ in having all the tibiæ externally minutely spinulose, instead of this condition being peculiar to the tibiæ of the posterior pair ("*tibiis posterioribus*"). No member of the *Byrrhidæ* is recorded as occurring in New Guinea, but E. Reitter has described four species from Sumatra (*vide* Notes from the Leyden Museum, 1880 and 1886).

18. *Dendropinis calva*, sp. nov. Black, nitid, finely punctured. glabrous (no indications of existence of a caducous pubescence). On the anterior surfaces and at the extremities of the tibiæ, and on the fore part of the mentum, and on the mandibles, some tawny hairs. Head above (including conjoined front and clypeus) densely punctured, and having a shallow rather obscure impres-

sion on each side between the eyes; these light-coloured. Antennæ with the club fulvous yellow, the remaining joints reddish piceous; third joint equal to four following joints; seventh to eighth joints triangular, successively increasing in breadth. Labium shallowly excavated in front with the sides of the excavation convex. Mentum coarsely punctured. Elytra with a wide transverse ill-defined band of large punctures about the middle; epipleuræ with two excavations at the anterior end of each to receive the intermediate limbs in repose. Anterior surfaces of femora without large punctures; tarsi red-piceous, with the under surfaces of joints 1-4 with dense brushes of fulvous hair. Metathoracic parapleura well developed, with numerous large punctures at the sides, the opposite groups being connected posteriorly by a single linear series. Abdomen with segments 2 to 4 subequal; the fifth equal to third and forth, all having a single row of contiguous large punctures along their anterior margins; the first and second segments excavated at the sides to receive the hind pair of limbs in repose, that in the second being curved to correspond with the outline of the tarsi. Length 8 mm. (4 lines).

19. *Dendropinis vestita*, sp. nov. This differs from *D. calva* in the possession of the following amongst other characters:—Glossy, finely punctured, and uniformly covered with a short erect pubescence; the mentum traversed by a conspicuous mesial longitudinal groove. Coarse punctures absent on the elytra, but present on the anterior surfaces of the femora, and on the sides of the abdominal segments behind. The latter also more strongly arcuated forwards in the middle line. Length 5 mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ lines). A single specimen only.

FAM. LUCANIDÆ.

20. *Cyclommatus kaupi*, Gestro; one male.

21. *Mastochilus subobliquus*, sp. nov. Frontal ridge well defined; two stout teeth project from the clypeus on to the labrum, one of which is larger than the other. These teeth are connected at the bases by a low transverse ridge, but no oblique ridge connects them with the prefrontal ridge; the central portion of the labium is separated from the lateral by deep grooves and is rather narrow. Prothorax very tumid, with mesial impression almost obsolete; the depression opposite the posterior lateral angle is large and filled with punctures, and there is generally a shallow depression adjacent to the hind margin, halfway between the lateral angle and the centre. Striæ of elytra very pronounced and all crenated. Length 40 mm.

NOTE.—The only *Mastochilus* recorded from New Guinea is *M. obliquus*, Kirsch., and this is described in an inaccessible Dresden publication. It does not appear that the specific appellation *obliquus* is in any way applicable to the insect under examination.

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FAM. SCARABÆIDÆ.

22. *Onthophagus consentaneus*, Harold; four examples.
23. *Anomala* (*fuscoviridis*, Blanch.); two examples.
24. *Anomala*, sp.; one example.
25. *Schizorhina whitei*, Thomson. Two examples of a *Schizorhina* are referred to this variable species. They are bronzy-piceous with purple reflections, and have the sutural lines of the elytra interrupted and their punctures relatively small.

FAM. BUPRESTIDÆ.

26. *Cyphogastra foveicollis*, Boisd.; two examples.

FAM. ELATERIDÆ.

27. *Alaus*, sp.; one example.

NOTE.—Without access to Candeze's monograph it is not possible to compare this insect with the description of any of the several species of this genus which are known to inhabit New Guinea.

FAM. MALACODERMIDÆ.

28. *Cladophorus ingenuus*, Waterh.; one individual.
29. *Telephorus*, sp.; one individual.

FAM. TENEBRIONIDÆ.

30. *Amarygmus oculeus*, Macl.; eight individuals.

NOTE.—Three of these may be separated as a well-marked variety, since they possess a defined yellow border to the clypeus, a character which is absent in the typical form.

FAM. LAGRIDÆ.

31. *Lagria pulchella*, Guérin; two examples.

FAM. RHIPHIDOPHORIDÆ.

32. *Emenadia*, sp.; one individual.

FAM. CURCULIONIDÆ.

33. *Pachyrhynchus rubro-verrucatus*, sp. nov. Black, dull; thorax little longer than broad, shallowly reticulate-punctate and with a faint indication in front of the mesial impression; elytra coarsely striate-punctate, the punctures most conspicuous at the centre near the suture, and elsewhere tending to become more or less obsolete, each with *one circular, one pyriform, and three more or less elongated, linear, smooth, red pustules*, of which the first two are sub-basal and the remaining three extending backwards to a

varying degree and elevated near their posterior limits. Silvery-blue scales are scattered on the sides and towards the apex of the elytra on the under surface, and upon the legs; patches of these scales also occur upon the sides of the head, beneath the eyes, and upon the coxæ. Short greyish scales clothe the legs. Length (incl. rost.) 14 mm.; thorax – length 4·5 mm., breadth 4 mm.; elytra—length 8 mm., breadth 5 mm. This insect evidently belongs to the group of species of *Pachyrhynchus* which includes *P. quadripustulatus*, Gestro (*P. verrucatus*, Pasc.) and *P. decempustulatus*, Gestro. In both of these, however, the pustules are circular in outline.

34. *Eupholus bennettii*, Gestro; 50 examples. Great variation in disposition of colour, from the type as described by Gestro, is exhibited by several of the specimens under examination.

35. *Rhinoscapha*, sp.; 20 individuals. Descriptions alone do not seem adequate to separate and define the species of this difficult genus, and therefore it has been found impracticable to name the specimens comprised in the collection.

36. *Apirocalus cornutus*, Pascoe; 12 individuals.

37. *Apirocalus* (*cornutus*, Pascoe, *femina*)? The elytra are more tumid than are those of *A. cornutus*, Pascoe, as described; moreover, they are much less longly cornuted. On the other hand, in the two insects the scales form a similar clothing.

38. *Leptops*, sp.; eight examples. Allied to *L. iliaca*, Pascoe, but probably distinct. Some have the scales light ferruginous, with white patches of scales here and there; others, again, have the squamæ light grey.

39. *Lixus* (*australis*, Dejean)?; two individuals. Probably referable to this species as defined by Boisduval, but his description is insufficient to indicate the beetle before him.

40. *Pæpalosomus dealbatus*, Boisduval; several examples.

41. *Alcides gestroi*, Pasc.; two examples.

42. *Alcides* (*elegans*, Guérin); 12 examples.

43. *Pantoxystus rubricollis*, Boisd.; one example.

44. *Tranes*, sp. An anomalous species if included in this genus of *Amalactideæ*, since the eyes do not meet beneath, and the second joint of the funicle is longer than the first joint.

FAM. BRENTHIDÆ.

45. *Orychodes* (*diagramma*, Boisd.)?; two examples. These represent a variety of the typical species, with the yellow band occupying the third interspace of the elytra interrupted, and an additional longitudinal band on the fifth, also a lateral and two apical ones—*i.e.*, in all six stripes.

46. *Ectocnemus*, sp.; one example. Closely allied to *E. pterygorrhinus*, Gestro, but having two apical linear elytral spots, and the expanded portion of the apical portion of the rostrum in the form of a tooth on each side.

47. *Eupsalis promissa*, Pascoe; three males and four females.

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FAM. ANTHRIBIDÆ.

48. *Anthribus wallacei*, Pascoe; two examples.

49. *Cedus*, sp.; one example. Allied to *C. guttatus*, Pascoe, but distinct therefrom.

FAM. CERAMBYCIDÆ.

50. *Tmesisternus politus*, Blanch.; 35 examples.

51. *Tmesisternus trivittatus*, Guér.; nine examples.

NOTE.—Three of these probably represent a distinct species, the front elytral band being waved and the hind one fuscous (instead of white). They measure 10 mm. (five lines) in length.

52. *Monochamus* (*Dihammus*) *rarus*, Thoms.; four examples.

53. *Batocera wallacei*, Pax. aff.; eight examples.

54. *Batocera lœna*, Thoms. aff.; five examples.

55. *Gnoma longicollis*, Fabr.; six examples.

56. *Exzemotes*, sp.; two examples.

57. *Glenea venusta*, Guér.; one example.

FAM. CHRYSOMELIDÆ.

Crioceridecæ.

58. *Lema cyanesthis*, Boisd.; two females.

Eumolpidecæ.

59. *Nodostoma*, sp.

60. *Rhyparida*, sp.; three examples. This genus is specially well represented in the Malay Archipelago, Baly alone having described 57 species. The labour involved in referring any insect to the species which it possibly represents is not compensated for by any certain conclusions to be arrived at.

61. *Colasposoma regularis*, Jacoby; 11 examples of the blue, and 24 of the green—cupreous variety.

Halticidecæ.

62. *Nisotra papuensis*, sp. nov.; one example. Prothorax with a short, lateral, longitudinal, groove but without indications of the transverse one. Elytra very finely closely punctured, without costæ, dark purplish steel-blue, abdomen and hind femora piceous. Prothorax orange, and remaining portions, including antennæ, lighter yellow. Length, including head, 6 mm.

63. *Nisotra obliterata*, Jacoby; four examples.

64. *Arispoda pulcher*, sp. nov.; one example. Colour rufous, distant portion of hindmost femora piceous; antennæ with the six basal joints rufous, the joints beyond piceous. Prothorax minutely punctured with two basal longitudinal impressions, but without transverse one. Elytra dark steel-blue, striate-punctate, with 10

rows of single punctures, interspaces minutely punctate. Length, 5 mm. British New Guinea

Galerucideæ.

65. *Oides*, sp. (*bifasciata*, Blanch.) ?; one example. Nitid, sub-elongate; sides of head, antennæ (except inner surfaces of three first joints), limbs (except coxæ and bases of femora) metathorax, a broad basal and a broad sub-apical elytral band black; clypeus, parts above excepted, prothorax and mesothorax light yellow; abdomen light fuscous; remaining parts of elytra bright red. Vertex smooth, distantly punctured; prothorax obsoletely transversely impressed in front; both it and elytra closely impressed by punctures. Limbs pubescent, except longitudinal ridge along outer aspect of tibiæ of posterior and middle pair, which are naked. Length, 6 mm.

66. *Oides basalis*, sp. nov.; two examples. Pale yellow; antennæ with outer ends of proximal and the distal joints pale fuscous. Elytra metallic blue, with a broad basal band continued along the outer borders but narrowing posteriorly, red. Length, 9 mm.

67. *Oides flavo-limbata*, sp. nov.; two examples. Oblong-ovate, pale fulvous; abdomen black; distal joints of antennæ fuscous; elytra steel-blue with purple reflections, having their extreme basal and lateral margins fulvous. Scutellum fulvous. Head impunctate, the central longitudinal groove of the vertex nearly obsolete; fourth and following joints of antennæ clothed with dark pubescence; prothorax broad, regularly convex, sides almost evenly rounded; anterior lateral angles obtuse but very prominent, apparently impunctate and with scarcely a trace of the anterior transverse impression. Length, 8 mm. Allied to *O. Jacobyi*, Duviv.

68. *Oides*, sp.; one example.

69. *Aulacophora boisduvali*, Baly; four examples.

70. *Aulacophora melanura*, Oliv er; one example. The insect under examination is referred to this species with some misgivings, owing to the meagre nature of Boisduval's description.

71. *Phyllobrotica bifasciata*, Jacoby; two examples.

72. *Prasyptera antennata*, Jacoby; 20 examples.

73. *Candeza bimaculata*, Jacoby; two examples.

74. *Buphonida rubrovirida*, sp. nov. Sub-elongate convex, dull, dark, reddish brown; front part of head and basal joints of antennæ lighter; under surface testaceous; extremity of femora and remainder of limbs and antennæ dark fuscous. Vertex impunctate, front rugose-punctate, narrow frontal impression well defined, clypeus slightly excavated in the centre; prothorax much narrower than elytra, fore and hind border about equal—the latter shallowly excavated in the centre, sides arcuate, hinder lateral angles prominent, coarsely punctate, mesial longitudinal and transverse impressions well defined. Elytra very coarsely punctate, densely clothed with yellowish grey pubescence, smooth and more coarsely punctured in the narrow space between the margin

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and sub-marginal costa; bases of elytra and broad longitudinal band behind the shoulders ill-defined internally, metallic green. Length, 8 mm.

75. *Buphonida intermedia*, sp. nov.; five examples. These, though rather smaller than the above-mentioned examples of the genus, probably represent a variety of the same species. They are, however, light testaceous (instead of being dark reddish brown, ? "*sordide fulva*"), and seem to connect Baly's species, *B. submarginata*, P. E. Soc., 1886, py. 38, from Mysol, with the foregoing.

Cassideæ.

76. *Cassida*, sp.; three examples.
77. *Aspidomorpha novæ-guineensis*, Boisd; 20 examples.
78. *Aspidomorpha adhœrens*, Weber; two examples.
79. *Aspidomorpha australasiæ*; 14 examples.

The examples referred to this genus are identified with these species only after considerable misgivings, owing to the brevity of the descriptions given by their respective authors. The species of the genus would appear to vary much in both the extent and the disposition of their special markings. In the last mentioned the brown colour of the markings may be so modified in intensity as to become nearly black; the yellow marks interrupting the discal connecting band may be more or less developed until they take the form of a large spot. In one individual the elytra are entirely black. The disc of the elytra, moreover, varies, too, in the degree to which it is elevated.

FAM. LANGURIIDÆ.

80. *Languria violaceipennis*, Harold; one example.

FAM. COCCINELLIDÆ.

81. *Chilomenes*, sp.; two examples.
82. *Epilachna hœmato-melœna*, Boisd.
83. *Epilachna*, sp.; two examples. Probably a variety of the last mentioned.
84. *Epilachna triodecemnotata*, Riche.

H. TRYON.

Brisbane, 4th August 1890.

List of Butterflies collected in British New Guinea Expeditions undertaken during Year 1889–90.

By HENRY TRYON, Assistant Curator, Queensland Museum.

NOTE.—The initial letters immediately following the places given as habitats for the different species indicate those by whom the specimens from these localities were collected. In this connexion C.H. refers to Charles Hedley, C.K. to Charles Kowald.

The butterflies from Apiana and Amo Amo, St. Joseph River district, were obtained in May; those from Doura, Manu Manu district, in June; and those from Milne and Bentley Bays in July.

PAPILIONIDÆ.

1. *Ornithoptera poseidon*, E. Doubl.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.), St. Joseph River (C.H.), Milne Bay (C.H.), Bentley Bay (C.H.). The examples of the female insect are identical with the specimens of *Ornithoptera* which W. H. Miskin has referred to *O. priamus*, Lynn. (*vid.* Annual Report on British New Guinea, 1888–9, p. 63, Brisbane, 1890*). Representatives of the opposite sex render it, however, evident that the common green *Ornithoptera* of British New Guinea is *O poseidon*, Doubl., as interpreted by Cramer (Pap. Exot. xxiii. A. and B), and A. R. Wallace (Trans. Lin. Soc. Lond. 1866, p. 35). Again, there is little or nothing by which to distinguish from this insect the *O. pronomus*, G. R. Gray, of Cape York. One of the male insects procured at Apiana, St Joseph River, has a wing expansion of only 4·6 inches. The same locality yielded a specimen in which the golden spots—even the large one usually present above the black spot included in the space intervening between the costal vein and first subcostal veinlet—of the hind wings were altogether absent.

2. *Ornithoptera helena*, Linn.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.), Doura (C.H.), Amo Amo (C.H.), St. Joseph River (C.H.). The males and females were in the proportion of 4 to 1. A female insect from Amo Amo had the fore wings uniformly sooty-black on the upper surface; the second female, from Doura, corresponded in the disposition of colour of the fore wings to that figured by Cramer (Pap. Exot. t. xxv. A.).

3. *Papilio Ulysses*, var. *penelope*, Wall.; Doura, Manu Manu River (C.H.), Milne Bay (C.H.).

4. *Papilio polydorus*, Linn.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.), St. Joseph River (C.H.).

5. *Papilio nicanor*, Feld.; Doura (C.H.). A diminutive example with alar expansion only 2·9 inches.

6. *Papilio ambrax*, Boisd.; †Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).

7. *Papilia euchenor*, Guér.; Fly River (C.K. and R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.); Milne Bay (C.H.). This insect presents the characters assigned to the *P. euchenor*, Guér., by Boisduval (Voy. Astrolabe, p. 41). The description, however, of this author is not sufficiently extended to adequately define the species.

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* Colonial Possessions Report, No. 103, pp. 117–124.

† The opportunity afforded through the publication of this paper is, it seems, a fitting one for recording, in addition to the species of butterflies collected under the auspices of his Honour the Administrator, the occurrence of certain species in the Fly River Valley made known by the late expedition sent out in 1886 by the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia. The specimens examined for the purpose of this record are contained in the New Guinea insect collection of the museum, and are a portion of those understood to have been obtained by W. W. Froggatt, natural history collector to the expedition.

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8. *Papilio thule*, Wall.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.). This butterfly represents the variety "*a*" of Wallace in having "the discal spot of the lower wings united with a transverse band "divided by fine nervures."

9. *Papilio parmatus*, G. R. Gray; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).

10. *Papilio agammemnon*, Linn.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.).

PIERIDÆ.

11. *Terias hecabe*, Linn.; Amo Amo, St. Joseph River (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

12. *Terias puella*, Boisd.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.).

13. *Terias virgo*, Wall.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.); Doura (C.H.).

14. *Delias cruentata*, Butler; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).

15. *Delias inferna*, Butler; Kiwai Island (C.K.); Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).

DANAÏDÆ.

16. *Danais sobrina*, Boisd.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Milne Bay (C.H.). The spots on the wings individually approach in size those present in the allied species, *D. ishma*, Butler, from Celebes.

17. *Danais affinis*, Fabr.; Kiwai, Fly River (C.K.).

18. *Danais* (*Parantica*) *citrina*, Feld.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.); Doura (C.H.).

19. *Hamadryas zoilus*, Fabr., var.; Apiana (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).

20. *Euplæa* (*Gammotoba*) *nox*, Butler; Doura (C.H.). *Male:* The male specimen assigned to this species, the type of which is a female (*sec.* Butler), presents, in addition to the presence of a light streak on the anterior wing beneath, between the internal vein and the first median veinlet, the following characters:—

—	Male.	Female.
Above, anterior wings, subapical spots -	Four - - - -	Three.
„ hind wings, submarginal spots -	Nine (2 anterior small) -	Seven.
„ „ marginal spots - -	Eleven (white) - .	Ten (ochreous).
Beneath, anterior wings, additional submarginal spots.	None.	
„ „ „ marginal points -	One - - - -	Two.
„ „ „ discal spots - -	Two - - - -	One.
„ hind wings, submarginal spots -	Ten - - - -	Eight.

21. *Euplæa* (*Chirosa*) *pierretii*, Feld., aff.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.). Three female and one male insects. However, the sexes are associated with some misgivings.

22. *Euplæa* (*Gastia*) *distanti*, Moore; Milne Bay (C.H.).

23. *Euplæa* (*Saphara*) *treitschkei*, Boisd.; Milne Bay (C.H.).

24. *Euplæa* (*Hirdapa*) *usipetes*, Hew.; Amo Amo (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.). The male insects from the above localities differ from the type, as figured by Hewitson, in having on the upper surface the light area in the disc more extensive and less well defined. On the outer side, too, this patch is confluent with a grey area (fading to white) which contains an opaque white spot anterior to the sexual brand. Above, also, there is a submarginal row of spots below the apex of the front wings. These spots may be six in number; usually all are indistinct, or the anterior three or four conspicuous. Beneath, these spots may have no representatives, or the first two, three, or four may be well defined. The females vary in a similar direction, a submarginal white spot in the first median interspace of the front wings being the most permanent.

25. *Euplæa* (*Hirdapa*) *spartacus*, Misk.; Milne Bay (C.H.). In a male example there are seven submarginal white spots present on the underside instead of five as in the type. The most anterior of these is very small, and in front of the one corresponding to the most anterior spot on the upper surface.

26. *Euplæa* (*Salpinx*) *callithöe*, Boisd.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.). The female of this handsome species does not appear to have been previously described. From the male *E. callithöe* and from other species it is distinguished by the possession of the following characters:—Above the general colour is reddish fuscous lighter externally (blackish fuscous in male). On anterior wings a large externally ill-defined white patch occupies the centre of disc, extending inwards half across the cell and forwards and outwards, so as to involve and merge with the arched transverse row of large pale blue spots (so conspicuous in the male). On the hind wings the white of the anterior border is outwardly more extensive, and is very conspicuous through the absence of the fawn-coloured glandular patch (of the male). Beneath, the general colour is lighter brown than in male; on the anterior wings the discal whitish patch is more diffused than it is upon the upper surface. Length of wing, 2 in. 7 lines, *i.e.*, 62 mm. (in male, 59 mm.).

NOTE.—It may not be superfluous to add that the female possesses a character common to that sex in the species belonging to *Salpinx* and allied sub-genera of *Euplæa*, viz., the hind margin, instead of being very convex, is more or less straightened by reason of the narrowing of the space within the internal vein.

27. *Euplæa* (*Calliplæa*) *saundersi*, Feld.; Milne Bay (C.H.). The single example, a female, certainly belongs to the group which includes *E. magares*, Moore, *E. dorycus*, Butl., and the above species. It most closely approaches the last mentioned, the type of which is from Aru Island.

28. *Euplæa* (*Calliplæa*) *parvior*, sp. nov. *Male:* Above—Light reddish brown, gradually becoming pale brown towards margin of wings, with purple reflections, without spots; hind wings with the discoidal patch pale coloured and rather small, the pale area

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

in which it is included extending nearly to hind margin of cell. Beneath—Rather pale dull brown; fore wings with the whitish area, which includes the sexual patch very conspicuous, extending to cell; hind wings with three white spots at extreme base (as in many other species of *Euplœa*), the anterior one of which is the largest; wing expansion, 2·4 inches. This insect is about the size of *E.* (*Calliplœa*) *pumila*, Butler (P.Z.S. 1866, p. 290), but appears to represent a distinct species. Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.), one specimen only.

29. *Euplœa* (*Stictoplœa*) *immaculata*, Butler; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Amo Amo (C.H.). In one of the male examples collected at Kiwai Island the spot usually present in the cell beneath is absent. *Euplœa crithon*, Miskin (Proc. Lin. Soc. N.S.W., ser. 2, vol. iv., p. 1042, Sydney, 1890), from Cape York, will, it seems, prove to be identical with Butler's species.

SATYRIDÆ.

30. *Cyllo amabilis*, Boisd.; Milne Bay (C.H.).

31. *Melanitis leda*, Linn.; Milne Bay (C.H.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

32. *Mycalesis* (*Orsotriæna*) *medus*, Fabr.; Milne Bay (C.H.). The variety illustrated by the three examples contained in the collection more nearly approaches the variety *M. doris*, Cram. (Pap. Exot. iv., t. 362, c. 1782), than any other. On the under surface there are faint indications of the spots (ocelli) present on the upper surface. In Cramer's description no allusion is made to the presence of two white submarginal lines, including a dark brown interspace. Such a feature is present in the insects under examination.

33. *Mycalesis* (*Orsotriæna*) *perseus*, Fabr.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.). The single specimen which, with some hesitation, is identified with this species, is of unusually large dimensions, having a wing expansion of 2·3 inches. Being old and faded, it is relatively light coloured, with scarcely a trace of the usual reddish tinge. At the same time the ocelli are very distinct. Its reference to *Orsotriæna* is correct beyond a doubt.

34. *Mycalesis* (*Mydosama*) *terminus*, Fabr.; Amo Amo (C.H.); Apiana, St. Joseph River (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).

35. *Mycalesis* (*Mydosama*) *asophis*, Hew.; Amo Amo (C.H.). This insect possesses all the characters attributed by Boisduval to his species, *M. mehadeva*. It, however, possesses that distinctness between the colours of the outer and inner halves of the under surface of the hind wings which Hewitson notes as characteristic of *M. asophis*.

36. *Mycalesis* (*Mydosama*) *phidon*, Hew.; Amo Amo (C.H.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

37. *Mycalesis* (*Sevanda*) *mucia*, Hew.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.); Amo Amo (C.H.).

38. *Mycalesis* (*Sevanda*) *dorycus*, Boisd.; Milne Bay (C.H.). Hewitson (Exotic Butterflies III., Satyridæ-Mycalesis II.) describes and figures the female of this species as having "a band of "orange near the outer margin, from the middle to the inner "margin." Boisduval, without indicating the sex of the insect to which his description applies, states (Voy. Astrolabe, *Lepidoptera*, p. 152) that the front wings are dark brown. They also possess this character in a single example from Milne Bay, a male insect. It may be doubted whether, in a genus in which the special sexual characters due to colour are little pronounced, as in *Mycalesis*, the opposite sexes are so distinct as is indicated, and therefore whether Hewitson's reference of the female insect before him to *M. dorycus*, Boisd., is correct.

39. *Mycalesis* (*Calysisme*) *pernotata*, sp. nov. *Male:* Above—Dark brown, a well-defined broad orange band crossing the middle of the wings, widest where the latter unite, exceeding one fourth hind margin, suddenly narrowed before and behind, and falling short of both costal border of anterior wing and inner border of hind one. Submarginal spots very indistinct, two on the anterior wing and three on the hind wing, in each case the hindmost being the largest. These spots have the pupil light violet, the disc purplish black, and the iris faint reddish brown. Submarginal line of outer border indistinct; odoriferous tuft at base of sub-costal light coloured. Beneath—Light brown, a well-defined broad white discal transverse band corresponding in position to the band on the upper surface. Submarginal spots coloured as above but conspicuous, and having the component parts very distinct; front wings with three, one between the radials, a second smaller one confluent with it, and a third much larger one behind; hind wings with four, one near the costal border, two between the median veinlets, and one at the anal angle; of these the third is the largest, and the second and fourth are the smallest. Wing expansion, 44 mm. Milne Bay (C.H.); one example in indifferent condition. This very distinct species evidently belongs to the group of *Calysisme*, which includes *M. nautilius* and *M. justinella*.

40. *Yphthima sub-arctous*, sp. nov. Above greyish brown, with cilia grey; a single ocellus on the front wing as in *Y. arctous;* hind wing without trace of ocellus. Under side grey, uniformly and closely undulated with brown; a single ocellus on the front wing; hind wing without trace of ocellus. Wing expansion, 1¼ inch, generally somewhat less. Milne Bay (C.H.).

NOTE.—The ocellus of the hind wings in *Y. arctous* tends to vanish, but it is doubtful whether it ever entirely disappears, and Semper, who has described (Journ. d. Mus. God. Heft. xiv., p. 145, 1879) the variations which occur in the species, makes, after examining abundant material, no mention of such an occurrence. Again, the six specimens of *Y. sub-arctous* from Milne Bay are all smaller than *Y. arctous*.

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ACRÆIDÆ.

41. *Acræa andromacha*, Fabr.; Doura (C.H.).

NYMPHALIDÆ.

42. *Lexias æropus*, Linn.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.).

43. *Parthenos sylvia*, Cram., var. *tigrina*, Woll.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.); Amo Amo (C.H.); Apiana (C.H.); Doura (C.H.).

44. *Cethosia cydippe*, Linn., var. *chrysippe*; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Amo Amo (C.H.); Doura (C.H.).

45. *Terinos novæ-guineensis*, sp. nov. *Male:* Fore wings shallowly falcate, the second median veinlet arising at the junction of the median and disco-cellular veins. Above—Anterior wings with the olivaceous fuscous velvet-like patch limited by a line commencing on the internal margin, which then proceeds to the origin of the first median veinlet, thence to the junction of the lower and upper discoidal veins, and thence with an angular emargination to the anterior radial, after which it curves towards the outer margin which is met at the posterior radial; an orange-rufous ill-defined spot at the apex. Hind wing, the velvet-like patch occupying the whole apical portion and extending as far backwards as the posterior radial; the orange-rufous patch occupying the outer portion of the wing from the middle of the outer margin to the anal angle, ill-defined, merging internally with the violet area. It contains a single submarginal waved violet line, and internal to this indications of a curved series of violet spots. Beneath—The pattern of marking is similar to what obtains in *Terinos robertsia*, Butl., *T. lucilla*, Butl., and allied species. The ground colour, however, is reddish white with bluish-grey reflections, and the markings rufous and rufous brown. Expanse of wings, 2 inches 9 lines (67 mm.) to 3⅕ inches (81 mm.). Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.). Allied to the above-mentioned species and to *T. clarissa*, Boisd., but differing from all in the development of the velvet-like patches of the wings, and, with one exception, in the point of origin of the second median veinlet.

46. *Cynthia arsinöe*, Cram.; Amo Amo (C.H.). Males only.

47. *Dyctis agondas*, Boisd.; Apiana (C.H.).

48. *Messaras turneri*; Milne Bay (C.H.).

49. *Cyrestis acilia*, Godt.; Milne Bay (C.H.).

50. *Doleschallia* (*bisaltide*, Cram., var.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

51. *Precis tristis*, Misk.; Doura (C.H.).

52. *Precis zelima*, Cram.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

53. *Junonia vellida*, Fabr.; Doura (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).

54. *Salamis algina*, Boisd.; Amo Amo (C.H.).

55. *Hypolimnas alimena*, Linn.; Kiwai Island, Fly River, (C.K.); Milne Bay (C.H.); Bentley Bay (C.H.).

56. *Athyma venilia*, Linn ; Milne Bay (C.H.).
57. *Athyma praslina*, Boisd.; Milne Bay (C.H.).
58. *Mynes leucis*, Boisd. ; Milne Bay (C.H.).

ERYCINIDÆ.

59. *Taxila decorata*, Hew.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.) ; Apiana (C.H.).

MORPHIDÆ.

60. *Drusilla catops*, Boisd.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Amo Amo (C.H.) ; Milne Bay (C.H.) ; Bentley Bay (C.H.).
61. *Drusilla catops*, Boisd. var. *mylœcha*, Westw.: Amo Amo (C.H.).
62. *Drusilla urania*, Linn.; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.). In one male and one female the large ocellated spot at the anal angle of the posterior wing appears upon both surfaces of the wing; in other specimens it is obscured upon the upper surface.
63. *Drusilla dimona*, Hewitson; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).
64. *Drusilla bioculata*, Guér. ; Fly River (R. Geog. Soc. Austr. Exp.).

LYCÆNIDÆ.

65. *Danis aleuas*, Feld.; Kiwai Island, Fly River (C.K.); Amo Amo (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).
66. *Lampides cnejus*, Fabr.; Apiana (C.H.) ; Amo Amo (C.H.) ; Doura (C.H.).
67. *Lampides* (*cayaya*, Feld.) ; Milne Bay (C.H.).
68. *Lampides*, sp.; Amo Amo (C.H.) ; Doura (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).
69. *Lycœna alsulus*, Her. Schaf.; Milne Bay (C.H.).
70. *Lycœna nemea*, Feld.; Amo Amo (C.H.).
71. *Pseudodipsas ilius*, Feld.; Apiana (C.H.); Amo Amo (C.H.) ; Doura (C.H.).
72. *Hypolycœna* (*phorbas*, Fabr.) ; Milne Bay (C.H.).

HESPERIDÆ.

73. *Pamphila matthias*, Fabr.; Doura (C.H.).
74. *Pamphila augias*, Linn.; Milne Bay (C.H.).
75. *Pamphila oliviscens*, Her. Schf.; Doura (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).
76. *Pamphila flavovittata*, Latr.; Doura (C.H.); Milne Bay (C.H.).

H. TRYON.

Brisbane, 6th October 1890.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

List of the Mollusca collected by Sir W. MacGregor on the Fly River.

Reporter: C. HEDLEY.

The small collection of shells made by the expedition on the banks of the Fly River, though scanty, and evidently picked up in haste, embraces a new species of *Nanina*. This splendid species is by far the largest land-shell yet discovered in New Guinea, measuring 70 mill. in diameter as compared with 40 mm. of *N. doriæ*. Four specimens in a poor state of preservation furnish the data from which a description will be published shortly. The collection also includes:—

Geotrochus tomasinelliana, Tapparone-Canefri; 400 miles from the mouth. Two examples.

Geotrochus taumantias, Tapparone-Canefri; no precise locality. Two examples.

Geotrochus, sp.; a single specimen of a large and handsome species, evidently new, but too worn to describe.

Unio flyensis, Tapparone-Canefri; 400 miles from the mouth. Five single valves.

Unio anodontæformis, Tapperone-Canefri; 400 miles from the mouth. A single valve.

Battissa violacea, Lamarck; 400 miles from the mouth. Five single valves.

C. HEDLEY.
C. W. DE VIS,
Curator.

APPENDIX W.

Digest of Report on a Collection of Reptiles, Batrachians, and Fishes forwarded from St. Joseph River by Sir William MacGregor, Administrator of British New Guinea.

By J. D. OGILBY, Assistant in Zoology to the Australian Museum, Sydney.

The collection was made during April and May of the present year and received during the latter half of June. It consists of 11 species of reptiles, two of batrachians, and four of fishes, the latter being in every case too young for identification. The following is a complete list:—

Emydosauria.

Crocodilus porosus (young).

Lacertilia.

Lialis Burtoni.
Gonyocephalus modestus.
G. dilophus.
Lygosoma atrogulare (sp. nov.).
L. bicarinatum.
L. (sp. ?).
L. baudini.

Ophidia.

Morelia variegata ?.
Brachysoma triste.
Acanthophis prelongus.

Batrachia.

Hyla dolichopsis.
H. Macgregori (sp. nov.).

Pisces.

Eleotris (sp. ?).
Eleotris (sp. ?).
Plotosus (sp. ?).
Syngnathus (sp. ?).

Note on the Cicindelidæ, Carabidæ, and Buprestidæ among the Coleoptera from the St. Joseph River, New Guinea, received by the Australian Museum from Sir William MacGregor.

By THOMAS G. SLOANE, of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

The Australian Museum has lately received a collection of insects from the St. Joseph River, British New Guinea, sent by his Honour Sir William MacGregor. The Cicindelidæ, Carabidæ, and Buprestidæ have been placed in my hands for determination. These consist of:—

Cicindelidæ.

Therates basalis, *Dej.*; 1 specimen.
Tricondyla aperta, *Olivier*; 3 specimens.

Crabidæ.

Pseudozæna tenebrosa (n. sp.); 1 specimen.
Chlænius binotatus, *Dej.*; 1 specimen.

British New Guinea.

This species, of which Ch. maculifer, *Casteln.*, is a synonym, is also found in Australia, extending as far south as the Clarence river.

Platynus papuensis (n. sp.); 1 specimen.
Perigona? (sp. ?).

A small black feronid belonging to the Platynini; I am not certain of the genus.

Buprestidæ.

Cyphogaster venerea, *Thom.*; 1 specimen

LORD KNUTSFORD to Sir A. H. PALMER.

SIR, Downing Street, December 31, 1890.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir H. Norman's Despatch of the 12th of November, forwarding copies of the Annual Report of the Administrator of British New Guinea for the year ended the 30th of June last.

I notice with satisfaction the continued zeal and energy which are apparent in this record of the Administrator's work, and I concur in the view expressed by Sir S. W. Griffith and yourself as to its value.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KNUTSFORD.

The Officer Administering
the Government of Queensland.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

No. 5.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 87, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1891.



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[C.—6269.–4.]

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85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
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110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
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113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
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1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889

No. 5.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

In continuation of No. 87, Old Series.

Sir TERENCE O'BRIEN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, St. John's, Newfoundland,
MY LORD, January 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1889, together with the Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

2. A second copy of this Blue Book has been forwarded direct to the Imperial Institute.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. O'BRIEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT UPON THE BLUE BOOK OF NEWFOUNDLAND FOR 1889.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
St. John's, Newfoundland,
January 12, 1891.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for transmission to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to the Imperial Institute, the Blue Book of the Colony of Newfoundland for the year 1889, in duplicate, which though completed at a somewhat earlier date than that of 1888 is still, I regret, much later than is desirable. I shall continue my efforts to overcome the difficulties which at present retard the compilation of the Blue Book.

Condition of the Colony.

The general condition of the Colony for 1889 can hardly be viewed as satisfactory, though the figures still show a considerable improvement over the years 1887–86–85. The staple industries exhibit but little contraction from the results of 1888; indeed, in the matter of preserved lobsters, seal oil, and cod oil there is quite a satisfactory increase both in production and value. Still the total

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result of the trade shows a decrease from 1889 in the exports of $459,028, and partial failure of the cod fishery over large sections of the northern coast and Labrador left many thousands of our population in very straitened circumstances.

The great economic evil in the Colony, which has frequently been adverted to, is the want of secondary or alternative employment to ensure to our people a means of living when the primary occupation of the fishery proves unremunerative. And it may be said that under the most favourable circumstances the fishery productions of the country, at least as at present marketed, are quite inadequate to maintain the population in a fair degree of comfort. It is fortunate that under these conditions other industries, such as mining and lumbering, are absorbing a considerable and increasing amount of labour, and though in the return of exports the ore shipped in 1889 appears to be only one half of the value of that produced in 1888, yet the actual output of crude mineral was, if anything, increased, implying a corresponding increase in labour.

Trade.

The trade of the Colony for 1889 may be briefly summed up as follows:—Total imports $6,607,065, of which $2,653,152 was from Great Britain, $2,168,763 from the Colonies, and $1,785,150 from foreign countries. Showing a decrease from 1888 of $612,077 in imports from Great Britain, and $226,649 in imports from the Colonies, and an increase of $25,391 from foreign countries, making a net decrease of $813,335. The principal articles of decrease were coffee, flour (62,696 barrels), preserves, molasses (243,420 gallons), oats, kerosene oil, rum, sugar, and tea. Whilst there was an increase in beef (5,375 barrels), butter, chocolate, fruit dried (100,000 lbs.), pork (8,808 barrels), brandy, whiskey, leaf tobacco, potatoes, dried goods ($88,008).

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total net revenue for 1889, including Customs, Post Office, and Crown lands, was $1,362,893, against $1,370,029 for 1888; but there were loans taken up in 1889 for public improvement, such as Placentia Railway and Hall's Bay Railway, and for the payment of a floating debt against the Colony, amounting in all to $740,100, and making the total revenue $2,102,993.

The expenditure, however, was in excess of this sum by $105,742, and made a total of $2,208,735. A considerable proportion, however, of this large sum may be looked upon as abnormal or extraordinary expenditure, such as that on account of the Bait Protection Service, including maintenance of s.s. "Fiona," $76,308, Board of Health and quarantine account, $33,231. On railway survey and work, $356,713. On the promotion of agriculture, $33,242. There was also a considerable sum spent in telegraph extension, say, $15,000, and for opening new roads and

erecting important bridges there was an expenditure of $15,046 A sum of $44,090 of debenture debt was also paid off. In reference to the large sum spent on account of Board of Health and quarantine ($33,231) I have to explain that it was the result of efforts to control a widespread and largely fatal epidemic of diphtheria which was prevalent in St. John's and other Settlements during the year, and an outbreak of small-pox in the district of Harbor Grace. The normal condition of the country may be said to be healthy, and small expenditures are generally sufficient to cope with epidemic diseases. Other expenditures than those above mentioned brought up the total for extraordinary services to $719,627.

The expenditure for ordinary services aggregate $1,489,108.99, including $357,692 the total cost of the civil establishment and legislature, $118,795 for educational disbursements, $190,513 interest on public debt, $190,226 for relief of the poor, $133,917 for roads, $157,055 for ocean and coastal steam, $42,937 for light-house maintenance, &c. Allowing the net income of the Colony for 1889 (exclusive of loans) to have been $1,330,891, the deficit on the ordinary expenditure (amounting to $1,489,108) was $158,217.

The total ordinary expenditure of the Colony is high in proportion to its power of production, but the Government is confronted with the fact of a largely increasing population with a stationary or perhaps decreasing productive area, and it has been the endeavour to utilise the confessedly fine resources of the Colony to the best advantage in its fisheries, its land, its mines, and its forests that has induced the Government in the hope of future benefit to undertake roads, public works, steam and telegraph communication on a scale that would be more than adequate were the necessity for the development of the Colony less exigent. And if this holds good of *ordinary* expenditure, much more is it applicable to the *extraordinary* expenditures. These are made principally for railway extension, encouraging agriculture, home industries, and shipbuilding, and have all the one purpose of opening out wider fields of remunerative industry to our people. The largest of these expenditures for 1889 is that on account of the construction of a line of railway to the Valley of the Exploits or to Hall's Bay, called the Hall's Bay Railway.

Briefly, the following are the circumstances and conditions which led up to this expenditure. Ever since the introduction of Responsible Government, continued efforts had been made to foster and develop the agricultural resources of the country, as a valuable adjunct to the fishery, by extending roads, giving bonuses for land cleared, encouraging the formation of agricultural societies, and so forth ; but later, since the commencement of the geological survey it had been pointed out by Mr. Murray, F.R.S., and Mr. Howley, F.G.S., that the best conditions for farming, both of climate and soil, were not to be found near the sea coast, but up the valleys of some of our larger rivers and around the margin of some of the great lakes, and interest was aroused as to the best means of

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opening this country to settlement. As early as 1875 a Bill was passed authorising the loan of a sum of money for the survey of a line of railway that would run north and west, securing the double purpose of opening up the country, and forming that link in the chain of intercontinental communication which had been ably advocated many years before by Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.E., when at his own expense he had caused a cursory survey to be made along the southern part of the Island. (Mr. Bellairs, C.E., 1868.) The survey thus sanctioned by the legislature was undertaken during the summer of 1875, the parties working under direction from Mr. Sandford Fleming; but the estimate given of the cost of the line, say, $9,000,000, was assumed to be beyond the resources of the Colony, and the matter was allowed to remain in abeyance for some years. Meanwhile the cry for wider outlets for labour became intensified as population increased and foreign competition drove down the price of our staple in our usual markets, and the Government and legislature were compelled to consider measures of relief. A committee of both branches of the legislature reported that they believed that no agency would be so effective for the promotion of this object as a railway, and they added that a narrow gauge road might be constructed at a moderate cost which would be well adapted to the means and circumstances of the Colony. On the recommendation of this committee the Railway Loan Bill of 1880 was unanimously passed, which authorised a loan of $5,000,000 in amount, not exceeding $500,000 each year, to be applied to the construction of a railway north to the head of Notre Dame Bay and of branch lines where necessary. A tender was, however, made by Mr. A. Blackman, of New York, and others to build and operate for 38 years for an annual subsidy of $180,000, and the loan Act of 1880 was repealed and another law passed incorporating the Newfoundland Railway Company, and giving effect to a contract for the construction and operation of the line on the basis of Mr. Blackman's tender. Work was commenced in 1881, and the line constructed as far as Harbor Grace, when the company, being in financial difficulty and the business in the hands of a receiver, was discontinued in 1884. So far as the intention of the legislature was concerned the piece of line completed had little purpose, for it did not reach that part of the country which it was hoped to have been effectual in developing, and in 1888 the feeling of the country in favour of extension influenced the Government to again bring the matter before the legislature, when an Act was passed, entitled "An Act to make provision for the construction of a line "of railway to Hall's Bay, and for other purposes." Authorised by this Act, commissioners appointed thereunder, pending the receipt of tenders and the making of a contract for the work, carried out a survey of the line during the summer of 1889, and in the autumn of that year entered upon the construction of the northern line of railway, commencing work at a point connecting with the Newfoundland Railway about sixty miles from St. John's.

These are, concisely, the circumstances under which the Government have entered upon railway work, and on account of which an expedition has been incurred for 1889 of $356,752.

The Placentia Railway was finished in 1889, the cost for that year being $92,000; the total cost for the 27 miles, including pier, stations, &c., being $525,000. This line will not materially aid the development of the country, but offers a ready means of communication with the southern and western districts which will doubtless be the means of aiding and extending trade with those portions of the Colony.

Public Debt.

The public debt was increased from $3,335,587 in 1888 to $4,133,202 on 31st December 1889; but it is fair to remark that the interest on loans under the Municipal Act, amounting to $607,000, and under the St. John's Sewerage Act, amounting to $69,230, is borne by the St. John's Municipal Council.

Agriculture.

Owing to the encouragment given by the Act for the promotion of agriculture passed in 1886 and amended in 1888, by which a bonus of $12 per acre is allowed for land, not exceeding 5 acres, cleared and fully prepared for cultivation, a large area of land has been reclaimed. In 1888, 1,794 acres were thus broken up, and in 1889 2,679 acres. It is too soon to speak of any effect being produced by the cultivation of this land upon the condition of the people, but there cannot be a question but that it will result most beneficially in the near future. The taking of the census in 1891 will afford a practical test of its value, and it may be safely asserted that without some such provision as that afforded by the above-named Act it would not be possible for such an area of land as that reported to have been brought under cultivation.

The large number of dogs kept in the Colony, especially in the outports, for drawing firewood from the forests, had for many years deterred parties from sheep raising, for which the Colony is held by many to be eminently suitable; but the statute of 1884, for the preservation of sheep, as amended in 1887, put it in the power of one third of the population of a settlement or district to have a proclamation issued ordering the destruction of dogs in such settlement. Twenty-six proclamations have been issued under this Act, covering large sections of the country, and it is believed that in consequence a great increase has taken place in the number of sheep kept in the Colony. The number of grants of land made during 1889 was 232, with 37,104 acres. The total area granted in the Colony may be said to be 320,000.

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Lumbering.

Under this head I am glad to be able to report the prospect of a large development. On the 21st May a company was incorporated with a capital of $30,000, styled the Exploits Lumbering Company (Limited), which has acquired a number of timber concessions, aggregating about 500 square miles, on the pine lands of the Exploits. A mill fully equipped with all appliances for carrying on an extensive business has been built, and between 200 and 300 men have been set to work cutting logs; quite a little village has sprung up around the mill, and signs of industry and prosperity are manifesting themselves.

A large extent of land in this Colony is covered with small-size timber, such as fir, spruce, birch, and poplar, which, in close connexion with other productions of the country, iron pyrites and lime, and the possession of immense water power, point to the peculiar suitability of the Colony for the establishment of the paper pulp industry. Negotiations have been in progress for the introduction of this business, and the Government have signified their willingness to make large concessions of waste land for this purpose.

Mining.

There are no new developments of great importance to be noted. The mines at Little Bay, which have in the past year furnished the larger proportion of copper export, are now worked at such a depth (1,500 feet) that, with the price of copper now ruling, it is reported to be a question whether work can be much longer carried on there. The quality of the ore is of low per-centage, 7 to 10, and now hardly pays for its production. It will be borne in mind that since the collapse of the copper syndicate the value of copper has dropt about 50 per cent.

The whole of Notre Dame Bay is rich in mineral deposits, and there is no doubt that if the working of Little Bay mines should be discontinued, other openings will be found for the capital at present employed there. The output of iron pyrites from Pilley's Island has largely increased, 7,530 tons having been shipped in 1889 against 1,850 tons in 1888. The export of this mineral is altogether to the United States.

The lead mine at La Manche, by transfer from the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, has been acquired by the Newfoundland Colonization Company, which has put down the necessary plant and will work the mine vigorously and systematically; some of the galena taken from La Manche is rich in silver.

An antimony mine has been discovered near Twillingate, and deposits of asbestos are known to exist in several localities, and these will probably be worked in the near future.

Shipbuilding.

Among the industries which re-act upon the trade of the Colony, none, perhaps, is more important than shipbuilding, for all the vessels that are built here find employment in the fisheries of the Colony. To a large extent they are employed in the bank fishery, and it may be said that it is owing in a great measure to the encouragement given to shipbuilding that this fishery has attained its present proportions. The number of vessels engaged in the bank fishery in 1889 was 330 of 18,890 tons, with 4,401 men. The catch was 236,821 quintals. 100 vessels were built in 1889, of 4,480 tons, on which a bounty was paid of $18,374—an increase over 1888 of 25 vessels, 1,464 tons, and $4,729 bounty. The value of these vessels may be stated at $220,000 in round numbers.

The total number of ships registered in the Colony is 2,172, with tonnage of 93,992.

Manufactures.

There is not much to report in this direction outside the large increase which has taken place in the number of lobster factories, but some small beginnings have been made in putting up boneless codfish in small packages, which quite possibly will develop into a very considerable industry. A fair market, though at the present a somewhat limited one, is found in Canada and the United States for fish thus treated.

Legislation.

Beside the Railway Act to which I have adverted in a preceding paragraph, there were two or three other important Bills passed which call for a short reference:—

1st. The Bait Act, cap. 6, which consolidates and amends previous Acts relating to the sale of bait fish, with the view of perfecting the provisions by which the export of bait may be kept more completely under control.

2nd. The Fisheries Commission Act, cap. 7, which authorises the appointment of a board of Fishery Commissioners whose duty shall be to inquire into all matters pertaining to the preservation and development of our fisheries, to take steps for the collection and dissemination of useful information on the subject, to make rules (subject to legislative sanction) for the conduct of the fisheries.

3rd. Qualification of Electors Act, cap. 15, which extends the franchise to all male British subjects of the full age of 25 years.

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The system of election by ballot with extended franchise came into operation for the first time in 1889, and worked most satisfactorily. Although nearly every district in the Island was vigorously contested, the proceedings were characterised by peace and good order.

Education.

As reported before, the system in operation in Newfoundland is denominational. Each religious body receives a per capita allowance of 38 cents, the number of adherents being taken from the last census. This system has, on the whole, been found to work well, and has given results for the money expended in advance of what has been attained in more favoured countries. The total grant for education in 1889 was $120,233, of which $41,219 was entrusted to the Church of England boards, $45,371 to Roman Catholic boards, $30,900 to Methodist boards, $1,818 to other boards, and one grant to an undenominational school of $924. The Church of England had 199 schools, 11,923 pupils (17·50 of their population), the cost of each pupil to the Colony being $3.26 The Roman Catholic Church had 200 schools, 12,279 pupils (16·30 of their population), the cost per pupil being $3.70. The Methodist body had 137 schools, 7,913 pupils (16 23 of their population), the cost per pupil being $3.90. Other denominations had five schools, 224 pupils (7·42 of their population), the cost per pupil being $6.91. The aggregate for the Colony showed 552 schools with 32,398 pupils (16·55 of the population), the cost per pupil being $3.74. In Ontario the cost per pupil is $7.59.

The immense extent of coast line over which the population is extended in scattered settlements renders it exceedingly difficult to bring home the benefits of education to a large number of the people with the means at the disposal of the Government. It is hoped that the legislature will see its way to so augment the grant that many localities now without schools may shortly have this great lack provided.

Savings Bank.

This institution showed a small increase in the deposits for 1889. $499,009 was put into bank and $317,119 withdrawn, showing an increase of $181,890. The deposits in the bank on 31st December were $2,002,833.42.

Labrador.

Private returns from mercantile houses doing business on the Labrador show a considerable decrease in the productions of that coast. It must be borne in mind that the export from Labrador is produced by Newfoundlanders resorting there for the summer fishery, and that consequently the value of the export goes into the wealth of Newfoundland.

The returns give :—

	$
186,933 quintals codfish, value - -	635,572
21,976 barrels herring - - -	76,916
581 tierces salmon - - -	11,620
38½ tuns cod oil - - -	2,772
Miscellaneous - - - -	4,414
	731,394

The total export for 1888 was about $820,000.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. WITHERS,

For Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir J. Terence O'Brien, K.C.M.G.,
Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 10.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 96, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1891.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1891.

[C.—6269.-9.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
73	Western Australia	1888
74	Gold Coast	"
75	Sierra Leone	"
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	"
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
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1	British Honduras	1889
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3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90

No. 10.

ST. LUCIA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 96, Old Series.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD

Grenada, April 17, 1891.

Forwarded.

(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

SIR, Government House, April 6, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book of St. Lucia for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. KNOLLYS.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1890.

Taxation.

1. On the third day of the year an Ordinance was brought into force imposing a harbour due of 6*d.* a ton on coal discharged in the harbour of Castries.

2. The *ad valorem* Customs dues were reduced to a uniform rate of 10 per cent., excepting on some few articles, such as arms, ammunition, jewellery, wines, &c., which still continue to be liable to a duty of 20 per cent.

3. By resolution of the Legislative Council a general exemption was made in favour of the Local and Imperial Governments with regard to stamp duty.

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Finance.

4. The revenue for the year was 50,232*l.*, the expenditure, 45,430*l.*; and the Colony having commenced the year with a balance of 4,899*l.*, closed its accounts with one of 9,701*l.*

5. The revenue and expenditure of the past five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1886 - - - -	39,823	44,114
1887 - - - -	39,967	43,598
1888 - - - -	42,248	43,175
1889 - - - -	47,510	46,086
1890 - - -	50,232	45,430

6. This statement shows that, though the expenditure of 1890 was higher than that of 1886 by 1,316*l.*, the revenue has increased during the same time by 10,409*l.*

7. The chief items of revenue for the last three years appear in the following table:—

Item.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	21,514	23,540	23,442
Port dues - - - -	827	1,981	3,311
Rum duty - - - -	11,316	12,052	13,518
Licenses - - - -	2,004	2,087	2,286
Road tax - - - -	835	968	1,235
Fees of court and reimbursements in aid	3,820	4,983	3,789

8. The fluctuation in Customs was due to the increase of the duties in 1889 and their reduction in 1890.

9. A large increase is shown under port dues. In 1890 the sum of 811*l.* was raised under the new due of 6*d.* a ton on coal, and in the latter half of 1889, as also in 1890, the wharfage dues, which had till then been paid to the Castries Town Board, were carried to the credit of general revenue.

10. The steady influx of labourers attracted by the works on the harbour and military fortifications increased the revenue from rum duty.

Local Revenues.

11. The elected Castries Town Board has passed through its first year of existence. It started with an available balance of 722*l.* and closed the year with a surplus of 1,121*l.* Its revenue for the year was 3,062*l.*, obtained principally from property rates; its expenditure 2,212*l.*

12. The total revenue of the other towns and villages amounted to 1,139*l.*, and their total expenditure to 991*l.*

13. The audit system was this year entirely changed. Instead of a pre-audit conducted locally as hitherto, a system of post-audit was instituted under the Comptroller and Auditor General, Somerset House, with a local auditor for the government of the Windward Islands to make surprise surveys and personally inspect the books and accounts.

Debt.

14. The debt of the Colony stands as follows :—

	£
For central factory loans - - -	32,400
„ immigration purposes - -	14,000
„ harbour works - -	70,000
„ public works - - -	17,300
	133,700

15. This was reduced by 2,400*l.* during the year. The debt charges (including this sum of 2,400*l.*) amounted to 6,814*l.*

Military Expenditure.

16. The amount spent by the Imperial Government on the pay and provisioning of the troops stationed in the Colony and for transport services was 12,446*l.* The defence works were actively proceeded with and large sums were spent on labour in this direction.

Post Office.

17. The business of the Post Office greatly increased. Mails were despatched by 206 steam vessels, and the receipts of the department exceeded the expenditure by 264*l.*

Public Works.

18. The sum of 15,965*l.* was spent on the public works of the Colony as follows :—

	£
Maintenance of roads - - -	3,467
Upkeep of public buildings - -	840
Improvement of roads - - -	3,431
Baron Asylum for the poor - -	2,233
New police barracks at Soufrière, Micoud, and Dennery - - -	820
Extension of Royal gaol - - -	1,096
Improved water supply for Castries -	848
Improvement to the harbour of Castries -	3,230
	15,965

19. The roads of the Colony are being improved by means of a small loan specially raised. The most important improvement is on the road from Castries to Dennery, which is being reconstructed with easier grades, and when it is completed it will be possible to drive a light vehicle over its entire length. An improved system for the upkeep of roads has been introduced during the last few years with marked success.

20. The Baron Asylum is a new asylum for the poor. Mr. J. S. Baron, a native of St. Lucia, left 2,160*l.* for this purpose, the expenditure of which has been entrusted to the Government. This sum has not proved sufficient to complete the buildings, which will be finished and afterwards maintained by the Government.

21. The present water supply of Castries is insufficient both in quality and quantity. The work now on hand is merely the renewal of the old main, which is absolutely necessary pending the adoption of a more extended scheme.

22. The dredging of the Castries harbour has proceeded steadily and nears completion. The material dredged has been utilized by making very valuable reclamations in various parts of the harbour. These reclamations not only furnish useful sites, but have also greatly improved the health of the town by filling up the swamps which formerly existed. The total amount spent on the harbour improvements to the end of the year was 95,981*l.*

Legislation.

23. Of the 14 Ordinances passed during the year the following may be noticed :—

24. The Shipping (Harbour of Castries) Dues Ordinance (No. 1) imposed a due of 6*d.* a ton on coal discharged in the harbour of Castries. It also imposed dues on steamers calling for or bringing coal and on sailing vessels, but these were shortly afterwards

abolished. This Ordinance has not yet received Her Majesty's assent.

25. The Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance (No. 2) reduced the 15 per cent. and the greater part of the 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duties to a rate of 10 per cent.

26. The Crown Lands Amendment Ordinance (No. 6) transferred all powers relating to Crown lands from the Colonial trustee to the Survey Department.

27. The Stamp Amendment Ordinance (No. 10) enabled a system to be introduced by which all fees of court are paid by means of stamps.

Councils.

28. There were no changes in the Executive or Legislative Councils.

Civil Establishment.

29. On the 26th September the Administrator, Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, C.M.G., went on leave. The Governor of the Windward Islands administered the Government from the 14th to the 23rd April, and from the 18th September to the 14th November; Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered as senior member of the Executive Council from the 14th to the 24th November, and on the 25th November Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Barbados, assumed the Government under the authority of a warrant from the Governor.

30. Mr. A. Child was on the 2nd of October confirmed as Chief Justice, the duties of which office he had been performing since May 1889.

31. Mr. L. J. Bertram was, on the 1st January, appointed local auditor for the Windward Islands under the Comptroller and Auditor General, Somerset House.

32. Mr. F. B. G. Moore, B.A., was appointed Inspector of Schools on the 1st of January. This was a new office.

33. Mr. E. W. Lord, chief revenue officer, died on the 26th of December.

Pensions.

34. The pension list was reduced by deaths during the year by 136*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and increased by new pensioners by 67*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* At the close of the year it amounted to 672*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

Foreign Consuls.

35. Mr. William Peter was appointed Consular Agent for Germany in the place of Mr. J. D. Moffat, deceased.

Vital Statistics.

36. The registration returns show the population at the end of 1890 to have been 43,685, made up of 21,536 males and

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22,149 females, as against a total in 1889 of 43,124, and in 1888 of 42,504.

Owing to the continual emigration and immigration of labourers these figures are not absolutely to be relied upon, and are probably below the mark. A census is to be taken in April 1891.

37. The living births numbered 1,574 (only two more than in 1889), males 840 and females 734. The deaths, exclusive of still-births, were 1,013. The still-births were 130. This gives, exclusive of still-births, a birth-rate of 3·65 per cent. of the population, against 3·70 in 1889, 3·40 in 1888, 3·46 in 1887, and 3·61 in 1886; and a death-rate of 2·35, against 2·24 in 1889, 2·14 in 1888, 2·22 in 1887, and 2·62 in 1886—the two rates being thus both above the averages for the four previous years of 3·54 and 2·30.

38. Of the total number of births, 594 were legitimate and 1,110 illegitimate, showing a per-centage of illegitimacy of 65, the same as in 1889, but 3·86 less than in 1888, 1·99 less than in 1887, and 6·32 less than in 1886.

39. Of the deaths half occurred under the age of five years and 30·53 under one year.

There were eight deaths from snake bites.

40. The marriages numbered 284, of which 264 were Roman Catholic, 17 of the Anglican Church, and three of Dissenters. The number for 1889 was 258.

Savings Bank.

41. The number of depositors in the savings bank steadily increases from year to year, as shown by the following table:—

On 1st January.	Depositors.	Deposits.
		£
1887 - - - -	296	6,538
1888 - - - -	438	8,567
1889 - - - -	453	9,492
1890 - - - -	640	8,279
1891 - - - -	681	9,492

42. The investments amount to 7,500*l.*, as follows:—

	£
New South Wales Inscribed Stock -	2,000
Canadian Inscribed Stock - -	2,000
Barbados Government Debentures -	1,000
Colonial Bank on deposit - - -	2,500
Total - - -	7,500

Ecclesiastical.

43. Three religious denominations are represented in the Colony, statistics of which are afforded in the following table :—

Religious Denomination.	Ministers.	Churches, &c.	Accommodation.	Average Attendance.
Roman Catholic - -	11	12	5,300	4,400
Church of England - -	2	4	650	400
Wesleyan - - -	1	1	200	175

44. The Government grant to the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations amounted to 1,379*l.*; the Wesleyans receive no aid from Government.

45. In the past year an arrangement was made by which the payment of salaries to the Roman Catholic priests was discontinued and a grant of the total amount of stipends was made to that Church on the condition that the several cures were not allowed to become vacant.

Education.

46. *Primary Schools.*—In 1890 one school was added to the number receiving assistance from the public funds. They are divided as follows:—13 Roman Catholic, 11 Mico schools (Anglican), 3 under the direction of the Canadian Mission Society, principally for coolie immigrants, and one under an Anglican clergyman.

The following table shows the number on the registers and the average attendances at these schools :—

Schools.	On the Registers.		Total.	Average Attendance.
	Boys.	Girls.		
Roman Catholic - - -	670	1,242	1,912	1,061
Mico (Anglican) - - -	1,024	359	1,383	605
Coolie - - - -	132	97	229	91
Anglican - - - -	87	58	145	63
Total - -	1,913	1,756	3,669	1,820

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The numbers on the registers for the previous three years were 3,416, 3,351, and 3,255, and the average attendances 1,865, 1,848, and 1,900.

47. The grants made from public funds to these schools were—to the Roman Catholic 637*l.*, to the Mico 600*l.*, to the coolie schools 150*l.*, and to the Anglican School 45*l.*

48. The primary educational system of the island is in a state of transition. In consequence of the passing of a new Ordinance, the trustees of the Lady Mico Charity decided to close their schools. These have done excellent service for many years and will be taken over by the Government. An inspector of schools has also been appointed, filling a want long felt.

49. *Higher Education.*—For 20 years there has been no provision for the higher education of boys. A grammar school, assisted by the Government, was this year opened under the management of the Vicaire Forain, who is the head of the Roman Catholic Church. It was opened with 40 pupils, the teaching staff consisting of two English masters.

50. The higher education of girls is admirably provided by the convent school.

Weights and Measures.

51. New standard weights and measures have been imported and a thorough inspection made throughout the island.

Imports and Exports.

52. The total value of the imports amounted to 206,693*l.*, including stores and supplies for the War Department estimated at 34,232*l.*, which is an increase on the previous year of 7,855*l.*, excluding military stores. The figures for four years are given in the following table:—

Year.	Exclusive of Military Stores.	Military Stores.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	115,755	196	115,951
1888 - - -	138,769	2,089	140,858
1889 - - -	164,606	7,442	172,048
1890 - - -	172,461	34,232	206,693

53. The quantities and values of the principal articles of imports are given in the following table .—

Articles.	Quantities.	Values.
		£
Cattle (including oxen) - - - -	401 head	3,531
Coals - - - - - -	33,554 tons	18,406
Flour - - - - - -	11,644 brls.	10,886
Cottons, linens, woollens - - - -	—	32,098
Fish, salted and dried - - - -	9,219 cwt.	8,678
Haberdashery - - - - -		7,030
Hardware - - - - - -	—	3,776
Leather, manufactured - - - -	—	4,851
Machinery and other agricultural implements -	—	11,814
Manure - - - - - -	—	8,097
Meat, salted and cured - - - -	465,184 lbs.	3,664
Rice - - - - - -	772,855 lbs.	3,299

54. The value of the imports from the United Kingdom was 62 per cent. of the total imports, from the United States 17 per cent., from France 5 per cent., and from British Colonies 11 per cent. From the United Kingdom came cottons, linens, &c., hardware, machinery, coals, and manure; from the United States came flour, salted meat, and some 3,000 tons of coal. The British West Indies contributed nearly the whole of the salt fish.

55. The exports are shown by the following table :—

Year.	Produce of the Colony.	Coal.	Other articles.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1887 - -	95,562	19,533	22,180	137,275
1888 - -	107,445	14,716	14,784	136,945
1889 - -	128,126	19,174	14,650	161,950
1890 - -	133,129	55,693	8,630	197,452

The Colony's produce, valued at 133,129*l.*, was distributed as follows :—59,075*l.* to the United Kingdom, 48,618*l.* to the United States, 14,017 to France, 9,027*l.* to the French West Indies, and 2,364*l.* to British Colonies.

ST. LUCIA.

56. The following table exhibits the principal exports of the Colony's produce during the past three years, and gives the direction of the trade :—

Articles.	Countries.	1888.	1889.	1890.
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Cocoa	United Kingdom	491,594	408,440	495,500
	France	300,575	401,520	430,830
	Barbados	—	480	—
	Total	792,169	810,440	926,330
		£22,987	£20,985	£26,864
		Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Rum	United Kingdom	—	—	126
	France	115	355	2,408
	Colon	1,423	—	—
	Total	1,538	355	2,534
		£154	£36	£253
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Usine sugar	United Kingdom	3,852,800	5,998,800	4,214,200
	United States	420,200	88,800	3,654,000
	British West Indies	15,900	5,400	20,700
	Other places	800	—	—
	Total	6,289,700	6,093,000	7,888,900
		£50,542	£63,922	£63,111
		Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Muscovado sugar	United Kingdom	118,000	116,100	142,700
	United States	2,321,700	2,437,300	3,101,600
	British West Indies	1,200	400	—
	Other places	400	—	29,600
	Total	2,441,300	2,553,800	3,273,900
		£14,441	£22,232	£20,467
		Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Molasses	United Kingdom	36,730	14,100	10,800
	French West Indies	108,247	170,091	333,031
	British West Indies	10	—	—
	Total	144,987	184,191	343,831
		£2,416	£5,372	£8,596

Shipping.

57. The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels which entered during the past three years :—

	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers - -	229	236,535	392	434,912	385	425,348
Sailing vessels - -	219	16,088	246	17,621	238	13,028
Total -	448	252,623	638	452,533	623	438,376

and their nationalities are as follows :—

	1888.		1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers.						
British - -	204	220,274	364	418,957	324	364,908
Foreign - - -	25	16,261	28	15,955	61	60,440
Sailing Vessels.						
British - - -	182	9,010	209	11,142	206	8,253
Foreign - - -	37	7,078	37	6,479	32	4,775
	448	252,623	638	452,533	623	438,376

58. Of the steamers, 82 came from South American ports, calling for coal, their destination being the United States. The quantity of coal shipped at Castries in 1890 amounted to 37,462 tons. The slight falling off in the number of steamers was caused by the depression in South America.

Crown Lands.

59. The working of the Crown Lands Ordinance of 1889 is gradually bringing the Crown Lands under control. Though no grants or sales were completed in the year, an amount of 547*l.* has been received as deposits and arrears on 1,067 acres of land, and some 46 town and village lots, the usual rate of deposit being

ST. LUCIA.

one-fifth the upset price—1*l.* for uncultivated land; cultivated land and town lots at varying prices. Applications for about 1,900 acres of land have been received.

Gaols and Prisoners.

60. The daily average number in prison was 50; in 1889 and 1888 the numbers were 40 and 47. The number of commitments was 460, as against 323 in 1889 and 412 in 1888. Of those committed, 310 were men and 150 women; 97 had been previously convicted, 49 once, 11 twice, and 37 three times or oftener.

61. The sanitary state of the prison was good, and there were but 10 admissions to hospital. One death occurred, and there was one execution.

62. The cost of maintaining the prison in 1890 was 878*l.*, and the estimated value of the work done by the prisoners was 560*l.*

Crime.

60. Offences against the person punishable on summary conviction have increased considerably. This may be accounted for by the large number of strangers who have been attracted to St. Lucia by the new works and by the expansion of the coaling trade.

64. The following table gives a retrospect of crime during the years 1887 to 1890:—

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Offences reported to the police - - -	1,309	1,339	1,212	1,237
Persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - -	1,696	1,585	1,430	1,426
Summary convictions:				
For offences against the person - -	225	172	198	283
For prædial larceny - - - -	29	35	25	24
For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - -	89	99	67	57
For other offences - - - -	454	443	320	397
Convictions in the Superior Courts:				
For offences against the person - -	11	7	18	12
For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - -	4	16	5	13
Number of persons acquitted:				
In the Inferior Courts - - -	879	806	780	626
In the Superior Courts - - - -	11	7	16	11

Hospitals and Asylums.

65. The following table gives statistics as to the working of the three hospitals at Castries, Soufrière, and Vieux Fort during the year :—

Hospital.	No. on 1st January.	Admissions.	Total.	Daily Average.	Discharges.			Deaths.	Per-centage of Deaths.
					Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Victoria - -	75	1,248	1,323	74	1,079	40	—	40	3·02
Soufrière - -	10	123	133	8	85	31	—	14	10·53
Vieux Fort - -	11	120	131	9	73	16	19	12	9·16
Total -	96	1,491	1,587	91	1,237	87	19	66	7·57

The hospital at Dennery was closed towards the end of the year, and no returns have been made.

66. The following table, omitting Dennery, gives a comparison of the last three years :—

Year.	Total Number treated.	Daily Average.	Death-rate.
1888 - - -	2,599	127	3·9
1889 - - -	2,304	120	5·8
1890 - - -	1,587	91	7·57

67. The following is a classified list of the diseases treated, giving the number of cases, and the number of deaths from each disease :—

Disease.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
Abscess - - - - - -	34	1
Anæmia and debility - - - -	218	12
Burns and scalds - - - - -	7	1
Cancer - - - - - - -	3	3
Disease of—		
Bones and joints - - - - -	11	—
Circulatory system - - - - -	7	1
Digestive organs - - - - -	114	22
Ears and eyes - - - - -	23	—
Genito-urinary organs - - - -	59	4
Glandular - - - - - -	3	—
Nervous system - - - - -	27	12
Respiratory organs - - - - -	126	29
Skin - - - - - -	71	—
Spleen - - - - - -	1	—
Enteritis - - - - - -	6	1

Disease.	No.of Cases.	No.of Deaths.
Fevers - - - - - - -	295	4
Fractures, wounds, &c. - - - -	91	—
Rheumatism - - - - - -	65	—
Senility - - - - - -	19	13
Serpent bite - - - - - -	1	1
Syphilis - - - - - -	39	2
Tumours - - - - - -	12	—
Ulcers - - - - - - -	90	—
For confinement - - - - -	4	—
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	89	1
Malingerers - - - - - -	156	—

68. *Poor Asylum.*—None but male patients were accommodated in this asylum. The female paupers were transferred in 1889 to the Victoria Hospital pending the completion of the new asylum which is being built in Castries out of the bequest left by Mr. Baron. On the 1st January there were 30 paupers in the asylum, and there were 93 admissions during the year, making a total of 123, of whom 49 were discharged relieved and 38 died. The daily average number in the asylum was 35. The principal ailments were senile decay, chronic ulcers, and rheumatism.

69. *Yaws Hospital.*—The number of admissions during the year was 65, which with the 45 remanets from 1889 made a total of 110 under treatment. Of these, 62 were discharged cured and 2 relieved, and there were 5 deaths.

70. *Lunatic Asylum.*—There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony. A temporary reception house has been fitted up at Soufrière to which patients can be sent until they are despatched to the Central Asylum for the Windward Islands at Grenada.

Meteorology.

71. The mean temperature of the air at Morne Fortuné, 800 feet above sea level, was 76. The highest reading, recorded in September, was 89, and the lowest 65, recorded in February and March. The total rainfall amounted to 88·11 inches, distributed over 288 days. In Castries the rainfall was 85·43 inches, and at Soufrière 59·09 inches.

72. The direction of the wind was as follows:—

Direction.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
Number of days	4	115	205	29	2	—	1	4	5

General Remarks.

73. The health of the Island was good throughout the year, and sanitation in the town and harbour of Castries has received

special attention. This and the reclamation of various swamps in the neighbourhood of the town has much improved the health of Castries. St. Lucia may now be considered as one of the more healthy of the West Indian islands.

74. Agriculture is recovering from the stagnation caused by the sugar crisis of 1883–85. Much new land has been taken into cultivation and renewed immigration of labourers from India determined upon. The usefulness of the botanical station is recognised, and applications for plants of economic value are numerous.

75. The return labourers from the Panama canal have brought a considerable amount of money with them and are everywhere taking up land and building houses. The new military and civil works and increased coaling trade have caused much money to be circulated; and altogether there is an appearance of prosperity and activity which speaks well for the future of the Island.

(Signed) C. C. KNOLLYS,
Administrator.

Government House, St. Lucia,
6th April 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 7.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 94, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.–6.]

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No.	Colony.	Year.
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75	Sierra Leone	,,
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	,,
77	Hong Kong	,,
78	Ceylon	,,
79	Fiji	,,
80	Lagos	,,
81	Victoria	,,
82	Leeward Islands	,,
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
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5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90

No. 7.

ST. VINCENT.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 94, Old Series.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Grenada, March 18, 1891.

Forwarded.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
March 16, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for 1890.

2. The Blue Book itself will follow by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

The only change to be noted under this head is that effected under "The Charcoal Ordinance, 1890," No. 13, viz.:—

For every license to make charcoal, the sum of two shillings and sixpence.

For every general license to sell charcoal the sum of fifteen shillings.

For every shop license to sell or expose for sale charcoal when the license is issued for a shop in the town of

o 66810. Wt. 18975.

Kingstown or within one mile of the said town, the sum of twenty shillings; and when the license is issued for a shop not within one mile of the said town, the sum of ten shillings.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony for the year amounted to 27,046*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, and that of 1889 to 27,522*l.* 6*s.*

The decrease of 475*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* is more than accounted for in the decrease of Excise duty (591*l.* 15*s.*), the receipts from this source in 1889 yielding 4,394*l.* 8*s.* as against 3,802*l.* 13*s.* for this year.

To judge by the increased revenue from liquor licenses issued in 1890 (104*l.*, or 7·9 per cent.) the revenue from Excise should have shown a proportionate increase, say of about 900*l.* more than was collected.

The only ground on which the deficient Excise revenue can be accounted for is illicit traffic carried on through the Grenadine Islands, which are believed to be employed as a basis for smuggling spirits into the Colony. A recent single seizure of rum, representing about 293*l.* of Excise duty, fully supports this theory. Arrangements are in contemplation which it is considered will check effectually this illicit traffic, or at least reduce it to a minimum.

Beyond the Excise there have been the usual fluctuations in the revenue, but to no unusual extent.

The noticeable increases are of Customs.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duties - - - -	217	0	0
To this, for a correct comparison, should be added a sum of 263*l.*, abated under the new and improved system of accounts, as "drawback" from the total amount of duties received, which was not so abated in 1889, but was charged as an item of expenditure; thus the actual increase of import duties was 480*l.*			
Export duties - - - -	47	0	0
Licences:—			
Liquor - - - - -	104	0	0
The increase under this head is considered to be due to extended liquor trade.			
Stills - - - - -	59	0	0
Due to the increased price of rum; and			
Post Office - - - -	56	0	0
Attributed to an artificial demand during the year for postage stamps by collectors. The only decrease of revenue as compared with the year 1889 worthy of notice is—			

	£	s.	d.
Fines, &c. - - - -	98	0	0
Due to the salutary effect of the prosecutions in 1889 for not taking out licenses in due time.			
The estimate of revenue for 1890 fixed the total at - - - -	24,885	0	0
Whilst there was actually collected - -	27,046	6	6
Being an excess of - - -	2,161	6	6

The following table will show the receipts of the year under the respective heads, and also those under the same heads in the previous year, 1889 :—

Details.	Revenue, 1889.	Revenue, 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Customs:					
Import duties -	13,719 13 1	13,936 17 5	217 4 4	—	Continued revival of trade.
Export duties -	1,268 2 10	1,314 18 3	46 15 5	—	
Tonnage dues -	1,139 8 0	1,087 2 6	—	52 5 6	
Harbour dues -	237 4 0	222 3 0	—	15 1 0	
Excise:					
Duty on rum - -	4,394 8 0	3,802 13 0	—	591 15 0	Due to illicit trade in spirits.
Warehouse rent -	47 2 8	50 10 1	3 7 5	—	
Stamps:					
Revenue - -	456 2 8	434 13 0	—	21 9 8	
Taxes:					
Income - -	415 0 5	428 9 8	13 9 3	—	
Land - - -	1,268 1 11	1,254 9 9	—	13 12 2	
Licenses by treasurer:					
Liquor - -	756 10 0	861 0 0	104 10 0	—	Extended liquor trade.
Stills - - -	116 0 0	175 0 0	59 0 0	—	Due to increased price of rum.
Auctioneers, &c. -	20 0 0	29 9 6	9 9 6	—	
Transient traders -	10 0 0	—	—	10 0 0	
Porters - -	3 15 0	—	—	3 15 0	Included under item Auctioneers, &c.
Passage boats -	5 2 6	—	—	5 2 6	Do.
Licenses by magistrates:					
Boats - -	Returned as a total sum of—	103 14 11	—	—	
Droghers - -		46 3 3	—	—	
Guns - -		33 15 0	—	—	
Dogs - -		248 13 9	—	—	
Horses, &c. -		509 15 0	—	—	
Carriages, &c. -		75 7 6	—	—	
	1,033 14 3	1,017 9 5	—	16 4 10	
Charcoal - -	55 14 0	56 17 6	1 3 6	—	
Postage:					
Sale of stamps -	890 10 1	946 9 3	55 19 2	—	

Details.	Revenue, 1889.	Revenue, 1890.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Fines, &c. - -	564 6 4	466 5 8	—	98 0 8	
Fees of office: Registrar - -	164 12 2	174 13 7	10 1 5	—	
Police magistrates -	331 14 0	281 9 0	—	50 5 0	
Reimbursements in aid: Hospital - -	133 13 7	248 17 3	115 3 8	—	
Cemetery - -	41 19 0	98 7 0	56 8 0	—	
Miscellaneous - -	449 11 6	158 11 8	—	290 19 10	
Total - -	27,522 6 0	27,046 6 6	692 11 8	1,168 11 2	

The estimate of expenditure, 24,422*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, was subsequently increased by special votes amounting to 2,960*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, making 27,383*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

The actual expenditure during the year, however, was 25,950*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, being less than the amount authorised by 1,432*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* This saving is to a certain extent due to the non-commencement or non-completion of certain works provided for.

In consequence of the total change in the description of all accounts under the estimates of the past year it has been found impracticable to furnish the usual comparative return of expenditure.

Public Debt.

At the close of the year the public debt of the Colony was 12,270*l.*, or 1,510*l.* less than at the end of 1889. It is satisfactory to note that no loans were negotiated during the year, the general revenue being in a position to and having advanced on account of the following services the amounts set opposite:—

	£
Kingstown new water works - -	2,712
Crown lands account - - -	732

The balance of public debt at end of 1890 is made up as under:—

	£
Government House loan - - -	2,000
Immigration loan - - - -	4,250
Public buildings loan - - -	1,000
Crown lands loan - - -	920
Public debt loan - - - -	2,900
Kingstown water works loan - -	1,200
	12,270

Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works during the year was 1,509*l.*, or 758*l.* more than in the previous year.

Of the authorised vote of 1,150*l.* for roads and bridges only 1,062*l.* was spent.

The following is a list of some of the principal works undertaken and completed during 1890 :—

1. New line of highway, Arnos Vale.
2. New line of roadway, Lowman's Village.
3. Fireproof room at Registrar's office.
4. Repairs to Court-house.
5. Clearing Mesopotamia river bed.

In addition to the foregoing, several repairs were effected to the various Government buildings throughout the Colony, and two cemeteries were established at Barronallie and Mesopotamia. Several other works were taken in hand (though not completed) during the year, notably, the opening of a new line of highway at Overland Village, the former road having been carried away by a landslip in September last.

Legislation.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed in 1890, the most important of which were the following :—

No. 1. To provide for the better recovery of rent.

No. 5. To amend "the Public Officers' Security Ordinance, 1880."

No. 7. To amend "the Crown Lands Boundaries Commission Ordinance, 1887."

No. 11. To abolish the existing office of auditor and the present system of audit, and to enable other provision to be made in lieu thereof.

No. 13. To amend "the Charcoal Ordinance, 1888."

COUNCILS.

Executive Council.

Mr. Wm. E. Hughes, a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 31st March, and Mr. George Smith, Q.C., a member of the Legislative Council, who was appointed to the Executive Council, was sworn on the 15th June.

Mr. Henry A. Hazell was absent on leave from 6th August to 6th November.

Legislative Council.

In the Legislative Council Mr. G. Van Heyningen, Police Magistrate of the Kingstown district, died on 5th October.

ST. VINCENT.

Mr. Henry A. Hazell, as above mentioned, was absent on leave from 6th August to 6th November, and Mr. D. A. MacDonald was appointed to act during his absence, when he was appointed to the seat vacated by Mr. Hughes.

Mr. C. J. Simmons was absent on leave from 17th July to 17th September.

Civil Establishment.

The changes in offices during 1890 were as under:—

Mr. Henry Powell, from the Royal Gardens, Kew, was appointed curator of the Botanic Garden.

Dr. Wiltshire Stanton Bruce Austin was appointed a medical officer in the room of Dr. J. Vance Young promoted to Cyprus.

Mr. C. Ormond Hazell was appointed to act as Police Magistrate of the Kingstown district, vice Mr. G. Van Heyningen, deceased.

Dr. G. W. Paterson was appointed to act as a medical officer vice Dr. Kirkpatrick resigned, and Mr. T. A. Emett was appointed second landing waiter.

Officers who have given security for the discharge of their duties.

The validity of the sureties of the several officers (six in number) was duly inquired into, and found to be satisfactory.

Foreign Consuls.

No new consulates were established in the Colony during 1890.

Pensions.

No pensions were granted during the year.

The pension list has, however, been relieved by the death of two pensioners, who drew 35*l.*

Population.

The births in the year, exclusive of still-births, numbered 1,652, and the deaths, exclusive of still-born, 1,359, giving a natural increase of 293.

The still-births were 110.

The infant mortality during the past year was unusually high and is attributable to the cause given by the health officer in his report under "Public Health."

229 marriages were performed during the year, or 77 in excess of the previous year.

The total population of the Colony at the end of the year under report is estimated at 47,933.

Education.

There were 41 schools in operation under the Board of Education with an average attendance of 3,229 scholars as against 42 in 1889, with an attendance of 2,966 scholars; the annual expenditure of the past year was 1,393*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* compared with 1,448*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* in 1889.

A further sum of 100*l.* was granted in aid of a Grammar School with an attendance of 40 pupils.

The following comparative statement shows the expenditure on the elementary schools during the years mentioned :—

—	1889.	1890.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Government grant based on average -	661 8 8	594 11 10
Payments by results - - -	732 13 3	723 6 0
Payments to pupil-teachers - - -	54 0 0	76 0 0
Total - - -	1,448 1 11	1,393 17 10

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

Savings Bank.

This was established in 1866, and the numbers making use of it yearly increase.

The following table gives the number of depositors, the amounts deposited, the amounts withdrawn, and the sums at credit of depositors in each of the three years mentioned :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors on 31st December.
		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1888 -	833	3,516 4 5	3,035 10 0	10,318 6 2
1889 -	920	3,865 10 3	6,019 15 11	8,640 2 7
1890 -	956	4,607 8 11	4,224 16 2	8,797 1 4

Friendly Societies.

The proceedings of friendly societies are regulated by the provisions of Act No. 49 of 1843. There are 13 of these societies at present registered, and during the past year their operation have considerably extended.

ST. VINCENT.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The value of the imports during 1890 was almost identical with that of the preceding year, being 97,808*l.* as against 98,212*l.* in 1889, a difference of only 404*l.* There were, however, numerous fluctuations in the several items, of which the total was made up thus: In food stuffs—bread, butter, cheese, flour, fish, meats, rice, refined sugar, fine salt and tea, show an increase (fish notably, 2,425*l.*); whilst coffee, meal, lard, crystalized and muscovado sugar show a decrease. Of household stuffs, candles, matches and soap show an increase, kerosine oil a decrease. Cloths, furniture, hardware, &c., and other things liable to 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, fell off 2,977*l.* Metals increased as to iron, copper, &c., but decreased as to galvanised iron. Building materials varied greatly, for, whilst paints decreased 67*l.*, paint oils increased 276*l.* Again, soft shingles increased 328*l.*, and hard shingles decreased 236*l.* Also soft woods increased 1,320*l.* and hard woods decreased 1,057*l.*, but, taken altogether, building materials increased 612*l.* Plantation supplies completely decreased 2,410*l.*, of which stores show 1,647*l.* and manure 727*l.* Horses and mules also decreased 963*l.* All spirits increased together 212*l.*; so also did tobacco 203*l.*; Government supplies increased 674*l.*; cordage decreased 476*l.*, machinery increased 310*l.*

All the imports are, however, satisfactory, and most of the decreases are due to an unfavourable comparison with a year (1889) in which many items, as the import of *ad valorem* goods, hard woods, manures, horses and mules, were abnormally stimulated in that year by the state of the sugar market. Staves, &c., are imported near the close of one year or the commencement of another and usually in large shipments, thus making comparisons of one year's imports with another of little use. The increase of Government supplies was in connexion with the construction of waterworks. No reason can be given for the decrease in cordage or increase in machinery unless it be attributed to fitful causes.

Exports.

Compared with 1889 the value of exports in 1890 decreased 19,842*l.*; the value of exports in 1889 having been 124,587*l.*, and in 1890 104,745*l.* The decrease may be attributed entirely to the reduced value of sugar and molasses. Indeed—

	£
Sugar decreased - - - -	25,494
and Molasses - - - -	2,649
	28,142

On the other hand, rum increased 2,285*l.*, due to a sudden rise of price, which stimulated its export trade. The value of cocoa exported shows a decrease of 397*l.*; but it is probable that the decrease is unreal, due partly to an over value being placed on this item in 1889, and partly to decrease in price, for the quantity exported was more than in the preceding year. Arrowroot increased in value of export 6,179*l.*, whilst cassava starch decreased 386*l.* The following tables of quantities exported (reduced to the common standards) will show that the productiveness of the Colony in 1890 was everything that could be desired :—

Sundry Exports in 1889–90.

Sugar :	Hhds.	Hhds.
1890 - - - -	6,078	
1889 - - - -	5,820	
Increase in 1890 - - -		258
Molasses :	Puns.	Puns.
1890 - - - -	1,951	
1889 - - - -	2,833	
Decrease in 1890 - - -		882
Rum :		
1890 - - - -	550	
1889 - - - -	238	
Increase in 1890 - - -		312
Arrowroot :	Barrels.	Barrels.
1890 - - - -	20,846	
1889 - - - -	16,732	
Increase in 1890 - - -		4,114
Cassava starch :		
1890 - - - -	196	
1889 - - - -	507	
Decrease in 1890 - - -		311
Cocoa :	lbs.	lbs.
1890 - - - -	102,771	
1889 - - - -	89,329	
Increase in 1890 - - -		13,442
Cotton :	Bales.	Bales.
1890 - - - -	91	
1889 - - - -	53	
Increase in 1890 - - -		38

Cotton seed:	Bags.	Bags.
1890 - - - -	588	
1889 - - - -	271	
Increase in 1890 - - -		317
Ground nuts:	Barrels.	Barrels.
1890 - - - -	655	
1889 - - - -	481	
Increase in 1890 - - -		174
Whale oil:		
1890 - - - -	587	
1889 - - - -	481	
Increase in 1890 - - -		106
Pigeon peas:	Barrels.	
1890 - - - -	514	
1889 - - - -	221	
Increase in 1890 - - -		293

The decrease in the export of molasses was mainly due to the retention in the Colony of that product for manufacture into rum. The decrease of export of cassava starch is not easy to account for, as the product is that of a permanent and steady industry of the labouring population. The export of 507 barrels in 1889 was abnormally large.

Shipping.

The total tonnage entered and cleared during the past year was 300,222 as against 266,123 in the previous year.

The subjoined abstract of the shipping returns for 1888, 1889, and 1890 will show the rate of increase and also the extent to which sailing vessels are being replaced by steamers in the shipping trade of the Colony:—

Description of Vessel.	No. of Vessels entered and Cleared.			Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Sailing - -	733	716	693	31,941	36,955	30,504
Steam - -	180	202	238	207,416	229,168	269,718
Total -	913	918	931	239,357	266,123	300,222

The number of British sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1890 was 613, and their tonnage 23,314; of foreign sailing vessels

the number was 80 and the tonnage 8,190. The number of British steamers entered and cleared was 238 and their tonnage 269,718. No foreign steamers entered or cleared at St. Vincent in 1890.

Prison and Prisoners.

The number of persons committed in 1890 was 170, namely, 109 men, 51 women, and 10 juveniles, or 22 less than in the preceding year.

At the close of the year there were only 21 males and five females in prison. There was only one death in the prison during the year—cause, heart disease; whilst the admissions to hospital only numbered two during the year, the daily average on the sick list being three. The medical officer of the prison attributes the satisfactory state of health maintained in the prison to the sanitary arrangements having been all that could be desired throughout the year, and to the close attention paid by the authorities of the prison to cleanliness, drainage, and ventilation.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Police Reports.

The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 1,552, a decrease of 489 compared with the number reported in 1889.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

The manner in which the cases brought before the magistrate's courts were disposed of was as follows :—

	1889.	1890.
Convicted - - - - -	1,140	657
Discharged - - - - -	249	247
Acquitted - - - - -	643	610
Sent on to higher courts - -	9	19
Undecided at close of year - - -	—	19
	2,041	1,552

Convictions.

The total number of summary convictions in the magistrates' courts was 657 as compared with 1,140 in the preceding year and 780 in 1888, while in the Supreme Court there were 14 convictions

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as compared with six in 1889 and six in 1888. There was in 1890 a marked decrease in the number of offences against property as compared with 1888 and 1889, as the table following will show:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property.	94	119	84

Punishments.

The punishments inflicted in the magistrates' courts in 1889 and 1890 are shown under:—

Punishment.	1889.	1890.
Fine - - - - - -	967	532
Peremptory imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety.	119	65
Peremptory imprisonment - - -	18	32
Whipping - - - - -	28	19
Bound over with or without sureties -	8	9
	1,140	657

Hospitals.

The number of patients in the Colonial hospital at the close of the year 1889 was 39, that is, 23 males and 16 females.

The admissions in 1890 were 412, of whom 246 were males and 166 females. There were therefore 451 patients treated during the year, the daily average being 48.

There were in all 41 operations performed during the year, of which, it is satisfactory to note, only one case succumbed.

The following table gives the number of cases treated under the classes stated, with the number of deaths as compared with 1889:—

Diseases treated.	No. of Cases, 1889.	No. of Deaths, 1889.	No. of Cases, 1890.	No. of Deaths, 1890.
General - - -	104	11	138	19
Local - - -	256	19	277	23
Injuries - - -	44	3	36	3
	404	33	451	45

The expenditure on this institution during 1890 amounted to 1,369*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* and the daily average cost of each patient treated was 1*s.* 6¾*d.*

Grants of Land.

The total number of grants of Crown land during 1890 was 24, giving an acreage of 279; 23 of these grants were for lots under 100 acres, and one grant above 100 acres.

As compared with the preceding year there was a slight falling off in the number of grants issued in 1890.

Public Health.

Reviewing the health of the Colony during the past year, the Colonial Surgeon and Health Officer states:—"In common with "other parts of the world, St. Vincent had its full share of the "influenza epidemic in 1890, chiefly during the first half year. "This was attended with and followed by pulmonary and "gastro-intestinal disorders, and, for a time, greatly disturbed the "health of the island throughout. The medical staff for many "months had their hands full with cases of 'pneumonia,' "'dysentery,' and 'gastro-enteritis,' which diseases sent the death "rate up to a higher per-centage than usual, especially among "children and those over 60; that at the hospital was 9·9 per "cent., mainly from pneumonia and gastro-enteritis, which, "though higher than for four years previous, nevertheless com- "pares favourably with the hospital returns of some neighbouring "islands. Apart from these diseases, the direct consequence "of an epidemic so widespread, it may safely be said that St. "Vincent has in no way departed from the proverbially high "standard of healthiness; inasmuch as the wet season, com- "mencing in June, and the fall of the year, the usual season "for the development of tropical endemic diseases, was not "attended with malarial disturbances of any gravity, tertian "intermittent fever of a very mild form and simple remittent "fever only being met with here and there, chiefly in marshy "districts, which fortunately are few and far between, and of "limited extent. Few or no deaths have resulted from this cause. "Beyond 'influenza' the island has not been visited for the year "by contagious or infectious disease of any kind."

General Remarks.

There are other subjects of interest which have not been mentioned in my report, namely, the construction of a botanical station on the site of the old botanical garden, established in 1764 and allowed to go to decay since 1828: the discovery of a valuable tract of land called the Upper Richmond Valley; the construction

of the Kingstown new waterworks, and the Local Exhibition held in connexion with the Jamaica Exhibition, 1891.

The Botanic Station is beautifully situated in a small valley, immediately below Government House and within easy distance of the town. The area devoted to this purpose is about eight acres and the soil is admirably adapted for the culture of plants.

Mr. H. Powell, the curator, arrived here from Kew on the 14th May last, and on the following morning commenced work. His zeal and devotion to his work have already made the garden that was a wilderness a pleasant resort; he has introduced and planted many valuable and economic plants from all parts of this island, from the neighbouring Colonies as well as from Kew Gardens. With very few exceptions these plants are doing remarkably well. The paths are all planned and are being laid out as fast as funds will permit. Mr. Morris, the assistant director at Kew, visited this station in December last, and his valuable suggestions are being carried out as rapidly as possible. It is intended to build a small but ornamental house for the curator within the grounds. A suitable site has been selected, and the work will commence on the 9th instant.

With regard to the Upper Richmond Valley, the only difficulty that presents itself is to obtain an easy entrance into it, but a new track has recently been found, which is shorter, and presents far fewer obstacles than the one that was at first attempted. From its peculiarly fortunate situation the valley is specially adapted for the cultivation of cocoa and spices. It is sheltered, the soil is extremely rich, and the whole valley is well watered by the Richmond river. The area is estimated at between three and four square miles and is surrounded by high mountains.

I am looking forward to this valley being opened up, as I am convinced that it will before very long prove a source of great revenue to this Colony, should the scheme as suggested by his Excellency the Governor be carried out.

Since my report last year on the Blue Book, the Kingstown new waterworks have been commenced and satisfactory progress has been made. The total sum expended on this work to 31st December 1890 was 5,256*l.*, but only 1,996*l.* was spent on its construction, the remainder having been paid for awards to owners of land, for water rights, debentures and interest, and other fees and charges.

The exhibition was opened on the 29th October last, and proved to be the most varied and successful which was ever held in this Colony. The exhibits covered a space of little over 3,000 square feet. It was indeed surprising to observe the large variety of articles collected and the good taste and ingenuity displayed in their manufacture, and most gratifying to realise the very great interest shown by every class and the trouble taken to ensure the success of the exhibition. During the three days it was open to the public over 2,000 persons were admitted.

The selected articles were forwarded to Jamaica by the middle of December in charge of Mr. T. B. C. Musgrave. More exhibits

could have been sent if more space could have been obtained. Six Caribs (three pure and three half-bred) were also sent to work at their trade of basket making in one of the cottages set aside for them in the grounds of the exhibition building. There was an agricultural show held on the 30th October in connexion with the Local Exhibition, which also proved very successful and much helped to bring the object and knowledge of the exhibition prominently before the people in the country districts.

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

St. Vincent,
6th March 1891

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 15.

SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 115, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.-14.]

REPORTS ON H.M. COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
82	Leeward Islands	1888
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	,,
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	,,
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,

No. 15.

SIERRA LEONE.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 115, Old Series.]

Acting Governor CROOKS to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Freetown,
MY LORD, Sierra Leone, June 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit my report on the Blue Book for the year 1890.

2. As soon as possible the Blue Book shall be forwarded to your Lordship as usual, but the transcription of the necessary copies may occupy a month or two, the work this year, I regret to say, having been delayed owing to the census falling upon the Colonial Secretary and his Department.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1890.

1.—TAXES AND DUTIES.

The alterations under this head during the year were :—

(*a.*) Exemption of ships belonging to the African Direct Telegraph Company from the payment of Port Dues and Customs duties in respect of *bonâ fide* telegraph materials landed from such ships for the Company's use.—Ordinance No. 7 of 1890.

(*b.*) Foreign Parcels coming by post made liable to Customs Duties.—Ordinance No. 13 of 1890.

(*c.*) Abolition of Wharfage dues and in lieu thereof the *ad valorem* duty on goods, &c., not liable to specific duty imported or brought into the Colony was increased from 5 to 7½ per cent. Goods, &c., imported into Isles de Los were made liable only to 7½ per cent.—Ordinance No. 16 of 1890.

Five-sixths of the revenue is derivable from customs duties on articles imported into the Colony. The tariff consists of an *ad valorem* duty of 7½ per cent. and certain specific duties which are moderate.

There is no direct taxation.

2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue, including the Parliamentary grant in aid of the Colonial steamer, was 73,708*l.*, showing an increase of 7,878*l.* on the estimated amount of 65,830*l.*

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The following statement compares the revenue of the years 1889 and 1890 :—

——	1889.	1890.	Increase, 1890.	Decrease, 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	56,479	60,317	3,838	—
Licenses	3,854	3,815	—	39
Other receipts	10,503	9,576	—	927
Total	70,836	73,708	3,838	966
Net increase 1890	—	—	2,872	—

The following return shows the estimated and actual receipts for 1890 :—

——	Amount estimated.	Total Receipts.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	54,000	60,317	6,317	—
Licenses	4,100	3,815	—	285
Other receipts	7,730	9,576	1,846	—
Total	65,830	73,708	8,163	285
Net increase 1890	—	—	7,878	—

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure in 1890 amounted to 63,056*l.*, being less by 5,060*l.* than the sum voted.

The following statement compares the expenditure of the years 1889 and 1890 :—

——	1889.	1890.	Increase, 1890.	Decrease, 1890.
	£	£	£	£
Salaries, &c.	29,268	29,757	489	—
Other expenses	37,503	33,299	—	4,204
Total	66,771	63,056	489	4,204
	—	—	—	489
Net decrease, 1890	—	—	—	3,715

The following statement shows the estimated and actual expenditure in 1890 :—

—	Amount estimated.	Total Payments.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£	£	£	£
Salaries - - - - -	33,227	29,757	—	3,470
Other expenses - - - -	34,889	33,299	—	1,590
Total - - -	68,116	63,056	—	5,060

The revenue and expenditure for the past three years were as under :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1888 - - - -	63,035	63,288
1889 - - - -	70,836	66,771
1890 - - - -	73,708	63,056

showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of 10,652*l.* for the year under report, and in view of the fact that a sum of 2,000*l.* was paid on account of the sinking fund for public works loan, when only 1,000*l.* was usually paid in previous years, the finances of the Colony may be considered as in a very healthy condition.

3.—MUNICIPALITIES.

There is no municipality in the Colony or other local body invested with authority. A bill entitled "The Municipalities Ordinance, 1889," was introduced in the Legislative Council and read a first time on the 24th October 1889, but it has made little progress. In July 1890 the Governor and Council appointed a Committee composed of the Colonial Treasurer, the Queen's Advocate, and two native un-official members of Council to consider and report upon two memorials submitted to Council bearing on the Ordinance. This Committee, having recommended that a committee of the Legislative Council should be appointed to remodel the existing Bill to suit local circumstances and requirements, was re-appointed to redraft "The Municipal Ordinance, 1889," and if necessary to take evidence; but its labours are not completed

There is no doubt but that municipal government would be a great boon to Freetown by encouraging the community to interest themselves in local matters instead of relying as at present upon the executive Government to do everything, even to lighting the

SIERRA LEONE.

streets, supplying water, and keeping the roads and markets in repair. A century is quite long enough for a colony to be in such leading strings.

4.—PUBLIC DEBT.

This remains the same as in 1889, viz.:—50,000*l.* raised in 1871–73 for constructing public works to be repaid in 1896–98. The sinking fund for its redemption amounting to 27,831*l.* on 31st December 1890; 8,000*l.* the balance of the loan from Imperial Government in 1877, and 454*l.* excess over Imperial grant for mission in 1888 to the Almami Samadu, total, 58,454.

The liabilities of the Colony exceeded its assets on—

	£
31st December 1888 by	40,693
„ „ 1889 „	33,101
„ „ 1890 „	19,374

5.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A new public Cemetery, at the Gun Kissy Road, about a mile from Freetown, was completed during the year, and by an order of the Governor in Council it was constituted a legal place of burial from and after 31st December 1890. The full amount voted for works and buildings, 1,500*l.*, was spent on repairs and alterations to existing buildings, but a larger sum is required annually to keep them in thorough repair; 472*l.* was expended in the upkeep of the roads, streets, and bridges, including the cost of lighting Freetown.

6.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure borne by the Imperial Government on account of the military establishment here in 1890 was 68,900*l.*

The amount paid by the Colony as allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from Customs Duties was 382*l.* 14*s.*

7.—LEGISLATION.

The under-mentioned Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to establish a frontier police force.

No. 2.—An Ordinance for the detention and deportation of Kondor, a political prisoner.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to legalise certain payments made in the year 1889.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to establish and regulate an Inland Colonial Post Office in the Colony.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend "An Ordinance for facilitating Appeals."

No. 6.—An Ordinance to enable the Government to pay expenses connected with trials in foreign countries.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to exempt telegraph ships from payment of port dues, &c.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to authorise the conditional discharge of prisoners under licenses.

No. 9.—An Ordinance for the detention and deportation of Bangang and Pamahung, political prisoners.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1881."

No. 11.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Education Ordinance, 1882."

No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend the "Lunacy Regulation Ordinance, 1872."

No. 13.—An Ordinance for the collection of customs duties on parcels.

No. 14. An Ordinance to amend the "Lunacy Regulation Ordinance, 1872."

No. 15.—An Ordinance to regulate pilotage.

No. 16.—An Ordinance to amend customs duties.

No. 17.—An Ordinance to grant allowance to the troops in compensation of customs duties payable by them.

No. 18.—An Ordinance to amend the laws relative to jurors and juries.

No. 19.—An Ordinance to amend the fortifications sketching Ordinance, 1889.

No. 20.—An Ordinance to enable the War Department to acquire certain portions of land.

No. 21.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to quarantine.

No. 22.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony for the year 1891.

No. 23.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Registration of African Children Ordinance, 1869."

No. 24.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to quarantine.

No. 25.—An Ordinance for taking a census of parts of the Colony of Sierra Leone.

No. 26.—An Ordinance to repeal "The Mount Aureol Lands Ordinance, 1890."

No. 27.—An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance for the registration of African children.

8.—COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

Executive Council.

Lieutenant-Colonels Maltby and Pachett, of the West India Regiment, and Major Fairtlough, Royal Artillery became members on assuming the command at different periods of the troops in the Colony; Mr. J. A. McCarthy, as Queen's Advocate and Major Gore and Mr. S. M. Bennett on temporary appointment as Acting Colonial Treasurer.

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Legislative Council.

The members of the Executive Council being also members of the Legislative Council the foregoing changes also apply to this Board. Mr. S. Lewis, barrister-at-law, an unofficial member, was absent on leave from the Colony for a portion of the year; and Mr. S. Boyle was ill during the whole of the year.

Board of Education.

The changes among official members were the same as in the Executive Council.

The only change among unofficial members was the nomination on 6th June of Revs. D. W. Thorpe and C. H. Goodman to be acting members during the absence of the Revs. J. C. May and W. Vivian from the Colony.

9.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Maltby, Commanding the Troops, administered the Government from 1st January until 13th February, when his Excellency Sir James Hay returned to the Colony from leave of absence.

Colonial Secretariat.

Mr. H. Higgins left for England 23rd August on sick leave and was succeeded by Major Crooks, Colonial Treasurer, who acted as Colonial Secretary to the end of the year.

Districts.

Mr. J. M. Metzger, manager and coroner of the Western District, died on 17th June, and Mr. W. B. Campbell, clerk in charge of the Survey Department was appointed on 1st July to the vacant office.

Judicial Department.

The Chief Justice, Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones, was on leave to England from 22nd May to 15th September. During his absence from the Colony, Mr. H. Higgins and Major Crooks were appointed successively judges of the Supreme Court.

The Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General, Mr. J. K. Donaldson, retired 28th May, with a gratuity on the ground of ill-health, and was succeeded in the office of Queen's Advocate by Mr. J. A. McCarthy, B.L., a native, who had been acting in that capacity.

During Mr. McCarthy's leave of absence to England, Mr. R. Brett, B.L., Master of the Supreme Court and Registrar-General acted as Queen's Advocate.

The Police Magistrate, Coroner, and Manager of Freetown, the First Eastern and Mountain Districts, Mr. E. Adolphus, retired on pension, 26th May 1890. The duties were performed by surgeons Gordon and Croft, Army Medical Staff, until the arrival on 26th December of Mr. J. B. Walker, B.L., who was appointed Police Magistrate and Coroner of the Police District of Freetown.

The Master and Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mr. Daniel Carrol, J.P., retired on pension 24th June 1890, and was succeeded by Mr. Reginald Brett, B.L., who was appointed Master of the Court and Registrar General of the Colony.

The Inspector General of Police was appointed ex officio Sheriff of the Colony from 5th March and Mr. W. A. Valentin as permanent Deputy Sheriff.

Police.

Captain A. McD. Moore, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, was appointed Inspector-General, 8th February, with the local rank of Major; Captain A. G. Paske, Royal Fusiliers, an Inspector on 22nd March, but resigned shortly after arriving in the Colony; and Captain C. W. Soden, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, an Inspector on 28th June.

Gaols.

Mr. R. Wade, Keeper of Freetown Gaol, was invalided to England on 20th November and Sub-Inspector N. H. Sawyer of the police force appointed to act temporarily.

Customs.

Mr. C. W. Edwin, senior landing waiter, was promoted Chief Examining Officer, and Mr. J. W. Cole, Second Clerk, to be Chief Clerk from 1st April.

The other changes are unimportant.

10.—PENSIONS.

The following new pensions were granted in 1890:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. F. A. Jones, Chief Clerk, Registrar General's Department - - -	29	14	0
Mr. S. J. Thomas, Under Gaoler, Gaol Department - - - -	52	5	4
Mr. E. Adolphus, Police Magistrate and Coroner, Freetown, &c. - -	208	6	8

A gratuity of 468*l.* 15*s.* was granted to Mr. J. K. Donaldson, Queen's Advocate and Registrar General, on his retirement from the service through ill-health.

There were also retiring allowances amounting to 157*l.* 2*s.* 9½*d.* granted to certain police constables and others.

On the other hand, the pension list was reduced in 1890 by the death of the following persons receiving the amounts specified below :—

	£	s.	d.
Ex Chief Justice W. W. Streeten, C.M.G., 11th January - - - -	396	16	9
Mr. J. B. Elliott, 24th March - -	139	10	0
Mr. F. A. Jones, 22nd June - -	29	14	0

11.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

Denmark.—T. S. Buckley.

France.—G. A. Mondehare.

Germany and Portugal.—P. Lemberg. P. Stuart acted from 6th May to 4th June, when Mr. Lemberg returned to the Colony and resumed his consular duties.

Greece.—P. B. Zochonis acted from 20th December vice Mr. Caffala absent.

Italy.—G. B. Zochonis recognised from 17th March. W. M. Pittendrigh acted from 9th May during absence of Mr. Zochonis.

Liberia.—A. E. Boyle appointed provisionally as Acting Consul from 2nd June.

The Netherlands and Spain.—F. Burman. Otto Hugentobler acted from 30th July to 9th October during Mr. Burman's absence.

United States of America.—B. Bowser recognised from 4th November.

12.—POPULATION.

The census was taken in 1881 with the following results:—Males, 31,201; females, 29,345, total, including the military, 60,546, of whom the whites numbered, males, 237 ; females, 34.

The occupations of the people were then distinguished as follow :—

Government employés - - -	679
Ministers of religion and members of legal and medical professions - -	159
Merchants, traders, hawkers and mercantile clerks - - - -	12,700
Farmers, farm labourers, and market people - - - -	12,317
Grumettas, labourers, and house servants	3,767
Fishermen and native seamen - -	1,964
Mechanics, butchers, bakers, &c. -	2,611
Miscellaneous - - - -	4,111
School children - - - -	12,592
Infants - - - - -	3,683
No occupation - - - -	5,963
Total -	60,546

The area of the Colony has been considerably extended since 1881, and no doubt when the census of 1891 is taken the population, roughly speaking, will be about 75,000.

The vital statistics furnished for the last three years give the following :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	1,358	1,248
1889 - - - -	1,250	1,363
1890 - - - -	1,249	1,531

The number of marriages contracted in the Colony during the year is reckoned at 240.

13.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

There have been no changes of any importance under this head.

The following table shows the different religious sects and their adherents in the Colony according to the returns furnished by those denominations :—

Denomination.	Places of Worship.	No. of Persons generally attending.
Church of England - - -	53	9,631
Roman Catholic - - -	3	380
Wesleyan - - - -	34	13,730
Free Church Methodist - -	14	2,459
American or Maroon Methodist -	1	300
African M. E. Church of America -	3	680
American Mendi Mission or United Brethren in Christ - -	8	958
Huntingdonian - - -	11	1,258
Baptist - - - -	3	356
Total - -	130	29,752

There is a large body of the Mohammedan faith. With the exception of the grants earned by the elementary schools, the Church of England alone is in receipt of any State aid. The other churches are either self-supporting or aided by missionary societies.

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Only the Bishop of the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic Priests and the superintendent of the Wesleyan and Free Church Methodists are Europeans. All the other Ministers of religion are Africans.

14.—EDUCATION.

The following table gives the number of elementary schools and scholars attending them which are annually examined by the inspector of schools and which received grants from Government based on the recommendations of the Board of Education :—

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.			Grants.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
					£
1888 -	67	5,338	4,205	8,543	762
1889 -	77	4,723	4,499	9,222	806
1890 -	73	4,662	4,279	8,941	891

There is a decrease of 281 on roll numbers of 1889 due to (1) influenza or (2) to Sierra Leoneans going for purposes of trade beyond the school area. On the grants-in-aid there is an increase on last year's grant of 85*l.* The inspector also reports a great improvement in the buildings and school materials.

Industrially no progress has been made. In addition to the above there were 18 elementary schools, with 1,047 scholars in 1890, which were below the government standard.

In Freetown there are six high schools, three for boys and three for girls, with a total attendance during the year under report of 324 boys and 186 girls.

There is a school at the village of Charlotte for liberated African children which is supported jointly by the Imperial and Colonial Government.

No progress was made during the year with the scheme put forward by the Government in 1889 for an industrial training school towards which one third of the cost, or a sum not exceeding 300*l.*, would be contributed from the funds of the Colony. A committee was nominated to consider the question, but the guarantee fund, so necessary to bring the scheme to a successful issue, was the rock upon which it split.

The Fouray Bay College, on the outskirts of Freetown, belongs to the Church Missionary Society, and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Students at it are therefore eligible to take degrees in theology, arts, &c., &c.

Two weekly newspapers were published in Freetown and a fortnightly one at Sherbro.

15.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following table gives the total value and duty paid for three years :—

Imports from.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total Value.	Duty.
	£	£	£	£	£
1888	190,529	1,211	58,407	250,147	43,742
1889	210,800	1,110	65,871	277,781	49,034
1890	295,012	1,627	93,269	389,908	53,810

Exports to.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total Value.
	£	£	£	£
1888	166,569	17,651	154,823	339,043
1889	131,077	23,992	164,650	319,719
1890	147,436	21,043	180,840	349,319

16.—SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years were :—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1888	702	255,330	703	262,351	1,405	517,681
1889	724	291,239	726	297,932	1,450	589,171
1890	868	342,591	854	336,918	1,722	679,509

That the abolition of tonnage dues in 1887 and compulsory pilotage in 1889 was a wise step is evident from the increase in the number of vessels that entered the port during the year. Ships must go a long distance south for the safe anchorage and coal supply that Freetown harbour offers, and in no other West African port can there be found such a provision market and a plentiful supply of good drinking water.

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17.—AGRICULTURE.

Grants of land in the Eastern District were given to Hon. S. Lewis and Mr. G. B. Williams, both of whom had already possessed plantations in that locality. There has been no improvement worth recording in the agricultural prospects of Sierra Leone, and it is generally admitted that the people require instruction in the art. The model gardens mentioned in the report for 1889 failed for want of support.

18.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

No manufactures have been started during the year and no mines exist in the Colony.

8.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners committed to and received in gaol during the last three years was as follows:—

Year.	Men.	Women.	Total.
1888 - - - -	842	75	925*
1889 - - - -	1,073	64	1,141†
1890 - - - -	745	52	797

The Colonial Surgeon in his annual Report states the general health of the prisoners (782) confined in the prison during the year has been remarkably good. No re-appearance for four years of "Beri Beri" and no death in 1890. The last death occurred 23 months ago.

20.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following return shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last three years:—

Year.	No. of Offences.	No. of Persons apprehended.	No. of Summary Convictions.	No. of Supreme Court Convictions.	Acquittals.
1888 - -	1,995	2,327	1,318	66	226‡
1889 - -	2,158	2,487	1,409	66	310‡
1890 - -	1,753	1,973	920	63	345‡

* Including eight juveniles. † Including four juveniles.
‡ Exclusive of cases that fell through for want of prosecution.

The Queen's Advocate, in report on Criminal Statistics Return 1890, says:—

"From the comparative table of the Annual Return, apparently crime is on the decrease. I regret, however, to record that with the diminution of crimes, the manner and method of their committal have been most alarmingly unprecedented in the criminal history of the Colony.

"The criminal class has been largely augmented by the abnormal influx of Aborigines into the Colony.

"The prevailing crimes are larceny and other offences relating to property.

* * * * * * *

"During the year under review there were six convictions of manslaughter and one of murder. In the latter case the sentence of death was commuted to life imprisonment."

21.—HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals and the number of deaths for the last three years were:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	701	103
1889 - - - -	702	135
1890 - - - -	942	169

The Colonial Surgeon reports:—

"The public health of the Colony during the year was fairly good, though during the early part of it the 'universal or Russian influenza' prevailed throughout the Colony.

"There were 606 cases treated in the several institutions in Freetown and Kissy with only seven deaths. The usual types of remittent and intermittent fevers prevailed, and in Freetown there was one case of so called black-water fever, all of which recovered with the exception of a case of bilious remittent fever, which was complicated with suppression of urine, and a case of black-water fever which ended fatally from effusion of the brain after all the fever symptoms had subsided.

"The six deaths among Europeans in 1890 are as follows:—

Malarial fever.—American missionaries who refused medical treatment - - -	3
Epilepsy - - - - -	1
Cases of fever landed from shipping for burial -	2
Total - - - -	6

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"The high death rate among the resident natives in Freetown, viz., 671, is due to insanitary domestic arrangements, mode of life, and quackery."

22.—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The total admissions, discharged cured, and deaths for the last three years were:—

Year.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	14	5	9
1889 - - - -	17	1	10
1890 - - - -	20	9	3

There were 95 inmates in the asylum.

23.—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

With the exception of the Government hospitals and asylum there are no almshouses or charitable institutions in the Colony. The Colonial Government votes 400*l.* annually, which is distributed among paupers by the Charity Commissioners appointed by the Government.

24.—BANKS.

(A.) The Treasury Savings Bank was established in January 1882. The number of depositors at the end of that year was 44. That its safety and convenience are much appreciated by the people is evident from the following table which gives the number of depositors and amount due to them in the past three years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount Due to Depositors.
		£
1888 - - - -	697	11,929
1889 - - - -	904	14,179
1890 - - - -	1,120	16,485

Deposits are received from one shilling upwards, but no individual is allowed to deposit more than 130*l.* to his own account within a year, nor to have more than 500*l.*, exclusive of interest, in the bank.

The rate of interest is 2½ per cent. per annum, and the funds of the bank are invested in Government security.

(B.) The West African Bank, Limited (capital authorised 250,000*l.*), opened a branch in Freetown at the commencement of the year. The branch paid-up capital amounts to 7,000*l.*, and deposits received during the year amounts to 2,000*l.*

25.—GOVERNMENT HOUSES.

The Government Houses in Freetown, at Cape Sierra Leone, and Kortright Hill are not in that condition of repair which it is desirable they should be.

26.—RAILWAYS, ROADS, AND TELEGRAPHS.

There are no railways nor internal telegraphs in the Colony. Roads to the interior districts have been constructed and well kept.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In concluding this Report, attention may fairly be drawn to the progress of the Colony during the year under review.

Being free from even the rumours of wars or "warboys" raids, the volume of trade has grown and, as a consequence, the revenue, imports, and exports have all increased. This satisfactory result is due in no small degree to the prolonged visits of his Excellency the Governor to the interior districts for the purpose of advising the Chiefs and settling their intertribal disputes. The presence of travelling commissioners in these districts and the 30 odd detachments of frontier police which are stationed along the road from Kambia on the Skarcies River in the north to the Manna River in the south-east, a distance of about 200 miles, had a good effect also in securing peace and the safe transit of produce to the various markets.

The Ordinance to establish a frontier police force for service both within and without the Colony was passed in the Legislative Council in January 1890. Within a short space this force, consisting of one inspector-general, three inspectors, four native sub inspectors, and 280 sub-officers and privates, has been organised by Major A. McDonnell Moore, Inspector General, and judging from its present state of efficiency gives promise of being very useful.

The best men serving at that time in the police force elected for frontier work, and the enlistment of recruits has been going on since. These men do not come from any one tribe or special part of the country, but every tribe from north to south and every language has its representative—a fact of great value as there are so many different languages spoken within and close to the Colony.

The uniform of blue serge, consisting of a light jumper and brass buttons, short knickerbockers, and a red fez is eminently

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soldier-like and serviceable, costing annually only 23*s.* Black leather belts and accoutrements, a Snider rifle and sword, a rolled blanket and a haversack, complete the equipment. With these the frontier policeman is actually independent.

The nature of the work performed on the frontier makes it absolutely necessary that the kit should be of the simplest description. Fording rivers, splashing through long wet marshes, cutting paths through the bush, long forced marches under a blazing sun, the hurried rush all through the night to gain some town, is not work that could be done in a tightly-buttoned jacket, a perfectly pipe-clayed belt, or brightly polished boots. The frontier police average about 32 years of age, 5 ft. 9½ ins. in height, and are physically strong and powerful men. Their simple habits of life, their great powers of endurance, courage in the field, and the absolute obedience they render, makes them a force capable of doing good work.

The civil police maintained for town work, consists of eight sergeants and corporals, and 100 constables.

The municipal question so stirred the community and divided it into sections for and against a municipality that another local weekly journal said to be the immediate offspring of the agitation, made its appearance on July 31st. In its review of the years events the situation is described as follows:—

> "The spirit of apathy and indifference manifested at all times by our people whenever matters of serious political importance demand their individual attention has not departed from them. And so to-day besides a few written acknowledgments in praise and appreciation of our efforts, no definite move has hitherto been made by the community in general."

A draft of "the Sale of Drugs and Poisons" Bill, which was printed but not presented to the Legislative Council, was viewed by the public generally as limiting the influence and practice of the druggists, and it was accordingly unfavourably received.

A small party of American missionaries arrived in the Colony in the early part of the year with the view of proceeding due east into the interior for evangelizing purposes. They tried to live in Freetown as the natives do, and being believers in the faith-healing doctrine, they objected to medical treatment. It was only to be expected, therefore, that they would be struck down with fever, and in less than a month after arrival three of them died.

A contract was entered into with Messrs. Fisher and Randall for a Weekly Mail Service by one of their steamers between Freetown and Sherbro at a cost to the Colony of 500*l.* a year, the Government being allowed free passages for six persons each trip.

Provision is made in 1891 estimates for a new hospital at Bonthe, a rifle range for the police at Bendoo, and a chapel at the newly-opened cemetery in Freetown, and now that the financial

outlook is so satisfactory, it is hoped that other desirable public works long contemplated may soon be carried out also.

The construction of the fortifications for the defence of Freetown harbour, and the building of additional barracks at Tower Hill gave constant employment during the dry season to large numbers of the labouring classes. These works, which have been going on for five years, caused a great influx of aborigines to the capital, as was to be expected. In the rainy season, however, when building operations are suspended this surplus population show no desire to return to their homes in the interior, and if they evince the same spirit on the works being completed the outlook for either the Government or the governed is far from cheerful.

Then will occur an excellent opportunity to raise an inexpensive militia force for the defence of the Colony from a class of men accustomed to arms and who have stomach for the fight. The Sierra Leone Royal Militia was disbanded in 1863, and since then no similar corps has been organised.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. CROOKS,
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
Secretary of State for the
Colonies.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 12.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 98, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.–11.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
79	Fiji	1888
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

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1	British Honduras	1889
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3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
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5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"

No. 12.

TURKS AND CAICOS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 98, Old Series.]

Governor Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

King's House, Jamaica,
April 18, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship two copies of the Turks and Caicos Islands Blue Book for the year 1890, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1890.

1. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

The receipts for 1890 were 528*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* in excess of those for 1889, and amounted to 8,901*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*, which, added to the balance from the previous year of 2,538*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, gave a gross revenue of 11,439*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, the largest on record since the year 1872. The increase is due to unusually large imports, the import duties being 661*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* more than in 1889.

The expenditure amounted to 8,262*l.* 13*s.*, or 1,183*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* more than in 1889. The increase is caused chiefly by the large amount expended from the surplus revenue, the expenditure from ordinary revenue being 7,067*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* against 6,946*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* in the previous year.

After defraying the liabilities for 1890, there remains a balance to the credit of the Colony of 3,177*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, besides the amount invested (1,000*l.*) to meet any sudden emergency. The financial condition of these Islands is therefore more satisfactory than it has been for several years.

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TURKS AND CAICOS.

2. *Public Works.*

Several new works were undertaken during the year. The principal ones were the building of a new public tank and the completion of the sea wall in front of the town, at Grand Turk, and the erection of a landing wharf and of a harbour light, at Cockburn Harbour. The tank is not yet finished, but the other works have been completed in a satisfactory manner. The construction of some new drains at Cockburn Harbour was also commenced, and some small works were carried out at Salt Cay.

3. *Legislation.*

There were only four Ordinances passed during the year, two of which were the usual supply ordinances. The others were No. 3, "To provide for the establishment of a Public Library and "Free Reading Room," and No. 4, "To provide for the incor- "poration, regulation, and winding up of Trading Companies."

Under the provisions of the Library Ordinance, the former Ordinances relating to the Public Library were repealed, and the Library was established in the Jubilee Memorial Building, and reconstituted under the name of the "Victoria Public Library and Free Reading Room," the general public having the right to use the library building at all times when open to subscribers, and to have free access to the books and papers. This measure has added greatly to the usefulness and popularity of the library, it being now in a flourishing condition.

The fibre industry having been introduced into these islands, it became necessary to pass a law to allow of the formation of joint stock companies, and the Companies Ordinance is to the effect that the Jamaica Laws (27 Vict. s. 2, cap. 4, and 28 Vict. cap. 42) relating to joint stock companies shall, so far as the provisions thereof are applicable, be in force in this dependency.

4. *Civil Establishment.*

Mr. C. P. Stamers, Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour, was appointed Assistant Commissioner at Salt Cay, in the place of Mr. J. W. Baker, who retired from the service on the 1st May. Mr. L. S. Leslie was, on the same date, appointed Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour, and Mr. W. A. Astwood, Revenue and Boarding Officer, the office of Resident Magistrate at North Caicos having been abolished, and the office

of Revenue and Boarding Officer at Cockburn Harbour revived by Order in Council of 6th February, which also fixed the salary of the Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour at 250*l.* with a travelling allowance of 30*l.*, and the salary of the Revenue and Boarding Officer at 120*l.*

The Government Medical Officer was absent on sick leave from the 29th September to the end of the year, and his duties were performed by Dr. L. M. Clark, of Jamaica, from the 23rd December to the end of the year, as the services of a qualified medical man could not be obtained during the first two months of Dr. Andrew's leave.

The Commissioner was absent on vacation leave for the last three months of the year, his duties being performed by the Judge of the Supreme Court.

5. *Pensions.*

Miss Eliza Jones, late matron of the poor-house, who drew a pension of 15*l.* per annum, died in August, and one pension was added, viz., 160*l.* per annum, to Mr. J. W. Baker, late Assistant Commissioner at Salt Cay.

6. *Education.*

The general inspection showed little change in the state of the schools, the average attendance being somewhat better than in the previous year, and the standard of efficiency about the same. There was no change of teachers, and the schools were all in operation throughout the year.

7. *Imports and Exports.*

The imports were very much heavier than in the previous year, owing to the number of vessels wrecked with valuable cargoes The exports were also very heavy, as the greater part of the wrecked cargoes was transhipped. The export of salt was not so large as that of 1889, which was the largest on record, but was considerably over the average. There was on hand at the beginning of 1890, about 370,000 bushels, and the crop raked during the year was a very good one, being about 2,250,000 bushels. The stock remaining on hand at the end of the year was about 600,000 bushels.

Tables are attached as usual showing the trade, as compared with former years, and also the rainfall.

TURKS AND CAICOS.

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the Year 1890 in comparison with the preceding Year 1889.

	1889.			1890.		
Imports.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alcohol	4	0	0	2	0	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	9	14	0	22	16	10
Bay water	5	2	0	23	15	0
Bread	17	19	3	21	16	3
Butter	75	18	1	72	13	1
Cheese	29	5	3	29	15	4
Cigars	7	16	6	8	8	9
Flour, wheat	528	15	2	600	5	8
Lard	84	8	11	89	1	9
Lumber and shingles	152	19	10	44	1	4
Meat, salted and cured	216	17	7	260	17	11
Oils	40	18	8	46	1	5
Paint in oil	14	3	9	20	16	5
Rice	64	1	0	89	4	3
Rum, brandy, gin, cordials, &c.	489	11	1	695	2	9
Soap	47	9	0	103	17	3
Sugar	296	12	4	311	19	5
Tea	41	16	0	39	0	0
Tobacco	40	13	3	52	1	11
Wine	11	16	10	20	3	5
Ad valorem duties	758	14	11	1,046	7	6
	2,938	13	5	3,600	6	3
Other Sources of Revenue.						
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1889—2,108,506 bushels; in 1890—1,974,015 bushels	3,074	19	7	2,878	17	11
Light duties	920	7	4	866	11	8
Auction duties	40	0	8	109	2	7
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	19	17	0	42	8	6
Fees of office	102	15	11	92	16	3
Postage	186	0	8	165	2	8
Post Office Money Order commissions	41	9	8	32	12	10
Liquor licenses	100	0	0	100	0	0
Wine „	58	0	0	72	10	0
Dog tax	9	16	6	21	2	6
Sales, Crown land	228	1	4	7	15	4
Lease „ „	45	11	3	190	12	2
Wharfage and storage	32	7	0	121	18	4
Grant in aid of Mail Service	232	14	1	312	10	0
Miscellaneous	302	11	8	247	0	5
Special	40	0	0	40	0	0
	5,434	12	8	5,301	1	2
Recapitulation.						
Imports	2,938	13	5	3,600	6	3
Other sources	5,434	12	8	5,301	1	2
	8,373	6	1	8,901	7	5
Balance from 1888 and 1889	1,244	9	6	2,538	11	4
	9,617	15	7	11,439	18	9
Expenditure for 1889 and 1890	7,079	4	3	8,262	13	0
Balance for 1890 and 1891	2,538	11	4	3,177	5	9

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1888, 1889, and 1890.

Articles.	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt - - - -	19,865 11 8	32,392 8 2	30,007 14 0
Sponge - - - -	287 9 8	249 3 10	181 6 7
Str'w, shells - - -	32 18 0	—	17 5 0
Sisal hemp - - -	—	—	49 10 10
Turtle shell - - -	—	257 12 4	30 0 0
Total - - -	20,185 19 4	32,899 4 4	30,285 16 5

VALUE of IMPORTS for the Years 1888, 1889, and 1890.

—	1888.	1889.	1890.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - -	28,268 3 11	27,369 0 9	42,107 15 11

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the Seven Years 1882 to 1888; and actual EXPORT for 1889 and 1890.

Ports.	1882 to 1888.	1889.	1890.
Grand Turk - -	567,328	856,677	770,754
Salt Cay - - -	481,437	490,544	559,423
Cockburn Harbour -	506,224	761,285	643,838
Total Bushels -	1,554,989	2,108,506	1,974,015

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1887 - 300,000 bushels.
" " " 1888 - 750,000 "
" " " 1889 - 370,000 "
" " " 1890 - 600,000 "

TURKS AND CAICOS.

RAINFALL for the Year 1890 compared with the Average for the previous Seven Years.

Month.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January - - -	3·87	4·62	4·68	2·23
February - -	·32	·52	·87	1·70
March - - -	1·64	2·52	1·64	5·92
April - - -	·44	·89	1·41	·42
May - - -	1·85	·05	Nil.	2·73
June - - -	·15	·31	Nil.	2·36
July - - -	1·32	1·82	1·59	3·06
August - - -	1·64	·88	·89	1·16
September - -	2·77	2·09	1·34	8·03
October - - -	1·05	1·31	·20	1·55
November - -	3·43	3·57	3·27	3·27
December - -	1·59	1·31	·62	·73
Total inches - -	20·07	19·89	16·51	33·16
Average for seven years, 1883 to 1889 - -	27·22	23·06	25·29	47·21

8. *Agriculture.*

On account of the small rainfall, the corn crop failed entirely at the Caicos Islands, and the other crops also felt the effect of the dry weather. There would have been much suffering among the inhabitants had it not been for the fibre industry, which furnished work for many, as the land occupied by the companies engaged in this cultivation is being rapidly cleared and planted. The grants for the lands surveyed in 1889 at North Caicos were issued during the year, and the persons to whom the lands were granted appear to take pride in having become landowners. The Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour writes in his annual report that they are planting more cassava than they did at first, and that there is a material improvement in their condition.

9. *General Remarks.*

The fibre companies above referred to were formed during the year, but have not yet been registered, as the Companies' Ordinance has but recently come into operation. One of these companies is located at the Island of West Caicos, having obtained a lease of the land there, which is suitable for the cultivation of fibre plants, with conditions for obtaining a grant in fee simple at any time

after two thirds of the land shall have been planted out. This land was surveyed by Captain Jackson, the late Commissioner, in July last, and the work of clearing it was begun in August, and is going on rapidly, being of great benefit to the labourers from the neighbouring settlement of Blue Hills, who are employed there. Up to the present date about 500 acres have been cleared. The plants set out are growing well, and some of the larger ones, planted in October, are already putting out suckers.

A Government Savings Bank was opened on the 13th January, at Grand Turk, with branches at Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour. It is an institution which has long been needed, and it has proved fairly successful, the deposits during the year amounting to 544*l.* 8*s.* Of this amount 39*l.* 2*s.* was withdrawn, leaving a balance due to the depositors, on the 31st December, of 505*l.* 6*s.* besides the accruing interest, which is at the rate of 2 per cent. The revenue of the bank, for the year, was 9*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, and the expenditure 29*l.* 10*s.* This excess is caused by the outlay of 23*l.* 7*s.* for books and forms, and is not likely to occur again, as the difference between the interest on the invested funds and the interest paid to the depositors will cover the working expenses of the bank.

E. H. JOHNSON,
Acting Commissioner.

Commissioner's Office,
Grand Turk, 16th March 1891.

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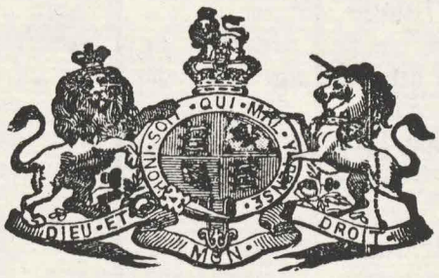
No. 4.

VICTORIA.

REPORT ON THE STATISTICS OF THE COLONY FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 81, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1891.



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1891.

[C.—6269.-3.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
81	Victoria	1888
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	"
117	Hong Kong	"
118	St. Helena	"

NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90

No. 4.

VICTORIA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 81, Old Series.]

The Earl of HOPETOUN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Melbourne,
November 29, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1889.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1889, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. Victoria occupies about a thirty-fourth part of the surface of the Australian continent, and contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British seas, contains 88,006 square miles, and is, therefore, slightly larger than Victoria. Area of Victoria.

2. The area of the Australian continent is estimated to be somewhat under 3,000,000 square miles, but that area, added to the areas of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounts to nearly 3,100,000 square miles. The following are the areas of the different Colonies—the calculations being based on latitude and longitude and the generally accepted figure of the earth:— Areas of Australasian Colonies.

Areas of Australasian Colonies.

	Square Miles.
Victoria	87,884
New South Wales	309,175
Queensland	668,224
South Australia	903,425
Western Australia	975,920
Total Australia	2,944,628
Tasmania	26,375
New Zealand	104,235
Total Australasia	3,075,238

3. It will be noticed that Victoria is by far the smallest Colony on the Australian continent, and the smallest of the group except Area of Victoria and other Colonies.

VICTORIA.

Tasmania. If the whole continent were to be divided into 100 equal parts, the area of Victoria would embrace three such parts, that of New South Wales 10, that of Queensland 23, that of South Australia 30, and that of Western Australia 34. Victoria is thus less than a third of the size of New South Wales, little more than an eighth of that of Queensland, about a tenth part of that of South Australia, and less than an eleventh of that of Western Australia.

Area of Australasia, Europe, and United States.

4. It may be mentioned that the area of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand is less by 680,764 square miles than the area of the continent of Europe (3,756,002 square miles), but exceeds by 47,647 square miles the area of the United States, exclusive of the Alaska territory (3,027,591 square miles).

Positions of Australasian capitals.

5. According to the latest and most reliable information, the following are the latitudes and longitudes of the capital cities of the different Australasian Colonies, the positions being the observatories at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Adelaide, the Barracks Observatory at Hobart, the Survey Office Observatory at Wellington, and the Government House at Perth:—

Latitudes and Longitudes of Capitals of Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Capital City.		
	Name.	Latitude S.	Longitude E.
		° ′ ″	° ′ ″
Victoria - -	Melbourne - -	37 49 53	144 58 32
New South Wales -	Sydney - -	33 51 41	151 12 23
Queensland - -	Brisbane - -	27 28 0	153 1 36
South Australia -	Adelaide - -	34 55 34	138 35 4
Western Australia -	Perth - -	31 57 24	115 52 42
Tasmania - -	Hobart - -	42 53 25	147 19 57
New Zealand -	Wellington -	41 16 25	174 46 38

Parliament of Victoria.

6. The Constitution Act of Victoria originally provided for the establishment of two Houses of Parliament, viz., the Legislative Council or Upper House, to consist of 30 members elected for 10 years, representing six districts, and a Legislative Assembly or Lower House, to consist of 60 members elected for five years, representing 37 districts; a property qualification to be necessary for the members and electors of both Houses. Since the passing of the Constitution Act the number of members of the Council has been increased to 48, elected for six years, representing 14 provinces; and the number of members of the Assembly has been increased to 95, elected for three years (unless sooner dissolved by the Governor), representing 84 districts; the property qualifica-

tion of the latter has been entirely abolished as regards both members and electors; that of the former has been reduced, and is at present as follows:—For members, the possession of freehold property of an annual value of 100*l.*; for electors, the possession of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum, or occupation of leasehold property of not less than a 25*l.* annual rating. Graduates of universities within the British dominions, barristers and solicitors, legally qualified medical practitioners, officiating ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, and officers in the army and navy, when not on active service, also have votes for the Legislative Council.

Electors on the rolls.

7. The number of electors on the rolls of both Houses of the Legislature in 1888–9 and 1889–90 is shown in the following table:—

Electors on the Rolls, 1889 *and* 1890.

Description of Roll.	Legislative Council.		Legislative Assembly.	
	1888–9.	1889–90.	1888–9.	1889–90.
Ratepayers' roll -	137,450	150,739	207,341	218,958
General roll - -	1,112	1,077	36,389	34,631
Total - -	138,562	151,816	243,730	253,589

Proportion of members and electors of both Houses to population.

8. The population of Victoria at the end of December 1889 is estimated to have been 1,118,028, and there being 48 members and 151,816 electors for the Upper House, there is one member to every 23,292, and one elector to every 7·4, of the population. In like manner, there being 95 members of the Legislative Assembly, and 253,589 electors for that House, there is now one member to every 11,769, and one elector to every 4·4 of the population.

Proportion of members to electors.

9. The proportion of members to electors is one to every 3,163 for the Upper House, and one to every 2,669 for the Lower House.

Proportion of peers to population of United Kingdom.

10. The estimated population of the United Kingdom about the middle of 1888 was 37,808,892, and the Upper House consisted of 560 peers. The proportion was therefore one peer to every 67,500 of the population. If Victoria were to be represented in the same proportion so far as the Upper House is concerned that House would consist of no more than 17 members, instead of 48.

Proportion of members of Imperial Parliament to population.

11. The United Kingdom returns 670 members to the Imperial Parliament, viz., 495 for England, 72 for Scotland, and 103 for Ireland. The proportion of members to the population of the United Kingdom was one to every 56,431; or for England, one member to every 58,617 persons; for Scotland, one member to

VICTORIA.

Representation to population in Victoria and United Kingdom.

every 56,626 persons; and for Ireland, one member to every 45,788 persons. If Victoria were to be represented according to population in the same proportion as the United Kingdom, she would, instead of sending 95 members to the Lower House, return only about 20; if in the same proportion as England, she would return 19; if in the same proportion as Scotland, about 20; and if in the same proportion as Ireland, 24.

Upper House in Australasian Colonies; members and electors.

12. With the exception of Western Australia,* all the Australasian Colonies possess Responsible Government, and an Upper and a Lower House of Parliament. In three of these Colonies the members of the Upper House are elected, and in the other three they are nominated by the Governor. The following is a statement of the number of members of that House, and the manner and term of their appointment in each Colony, also the number of electors in the three Colonies in which the appointment is by election :—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Members and Electors.

Colony.	Number of Members.	Manner of Appointment.	Term of Appointment.	Number of Electors.
Victoria	48	Elected	Six years	151,816
New South Wales	73	Nominated	Life	—
Queensland	39	Nominated	Life	—
South Australia	24	Elected	Eight years	33,741
Tasmania	18	Elected	Five years	6,135
New Zealand	44	Nominated	Life	—

Upper House; qualification of members.

13. The following is a statement of the qualification of members of the Upper House in the various Colonies. Victoria appears to be the only Colony of the group in which a property qualification is necessary :—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Members.

Victoria	At least 30 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; possessed of freehold property in Victoria of the value of 100*l.* per annum.
New South Wales	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
Queensland	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
South Australia	At least 30 years of age; resident three years in the Colony; a natural-born or naturalised subject; or legal denizen.
Tasmania	At least 30 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; or a holder of letters of denization or certificate of naturalisation.
New Zealand	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.

* A Bill has just passed the Imperial Parliament providing for the establishment of Responsible Government in Western Australia.

Upper House; qualification of electors.

14. A property qualification for electors of members of the Upper House exists in the three Colonies in which the appointment is by election. The following is a description of the necessary qualifications:—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Electors.

Victoria - -	At least 21 years of age; possessed of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum, or occupying leasehold property of not less than a 25*l.* annual rating; or being a graduate of some university in the British dominions, a barrister, a solicitor, a legally qualified medical practitioner, an officiating minister of religion, a certificated schoolmaster, or an officer of the Army or Navy not on active service.
South Australia -	At least 21 years of age; possessed of a freehold estate of the value of 50*l.*, or a leasehold of 20*l.* annual value, with three years to run; or occupying a dwelling-house of 25*l.* annual value.
Tasmania - -	At least 21 years of age; and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; possessed of a freehold estate of the value of 20*l.* per annum, or a leasehold of 80*l.* per annum; or being a graduate of some university in the British dominions, an associate of arts of Tasmania, a barrister, a solicitor, a legally qualified medical practitioner, an officiating minister of religion, an officer or a retired officer of H.M. Army or Navy not on actual service, or a retired officer of the Tasmanian Volunteer Force.

Upper House; payment of members.

15. In South Australia members of the Upper House receive 200*l.* per annum for their services; in New Zealand they receive 100*l.* for every session attended if they live more than three miles from the Parliament buildings, in other cases no payment. In the remaining Colonies members of this House receive no remuneration for their services.

Lower House; members and electors.

16. In all the Australasian Colonies which possess Responsible Government the members of the Lower House are elected. The following table shows the number of members, the term for which they are elected, and the number of electors for this House in each Colony:—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Members and Electors.

Colony.	Number of Members.	Term for which elected.	Number of Electors.
Victoria - - - -	95	Three years -	253,589
New South Wales - - -	137	Three years -	285,408
Queensland - - -	72	Five years -	72,458
South Australia - - -	54	Three years -	62,434
Tasmania - - - -	36	Five years -	25,312
New Zealand - - -	95	Three years -	175,410

VICTORIA.

Lower House; qualification of members.

17. No property qualification is necessary for members for the Lower House in any of the Colonies. The following is the necessary qualification :—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Members.

Victoria - -	At least 21 years of age, and resident in Victoria for the space of two years.
New South Wales -	At least 21 years of age, absolutely free, and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
Queensland - -	At least 21 years of age, absolutely free, and qualified and registered as a voter in any electoral district.
South Australia -	Same qualification as an elector (*post*).
Tasmania - -	At least 21 years of age, and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
New Zealand - -	Same qualification as an elector (*post*).

Lower House; qualification of electors.

18. To entitle a person to be an elector for members of the Lower House of Parliament a property qualification is not essential in any of the Australasian Colonies except Tasmania. A second vote in a different electoral district is, however, in most instances, acquired in respect to property. The following is a statement of the qualification of electors for this House in each of the Colonies:—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Electors.

Victoria - -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, not subject to any legal incapacity, and having resided in Victoria for the space of one year, may vote by virtue of being included in the lists of ratepaying electors, or by virtue of being the holder of an "elector's right," but no person may vote twice in the same electoral district at one election.
New South Wales -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, is entitled to be placed on the roll of electors either in respect to residence or property.

Queensland - -	Any person at least 21 years of age, absolutely free, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, and being a resident in any electoral district for a period of six months, is entitled to be placed on the roll of electors either in respect to residence or property.
South Australia -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, untainted by crime, and having been on the electoral roll of his district for six months prior to the election is entitled to vote.
Tasmania - -	An elector must be at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, and must be the owner or occupier of property of any value, as shown on the assessment roll, or must be in receipt of income, salary, or wages of not less than 60*l.* per annum, of which 30*l.* must be received during the six months prior to the claim to vote being sent in.
New Zealand -	For European representation:—Any male 21 years of age (not a Maori), if resident one year in the Colony, and six months in an electoral district, is entitled to be placed on the register of voters. Freehold property, 25*l.* in value, held for six months before registration entitles an adult male to register, if not already registered, under the residential qualification. For a Maori to be placed on the register it is necessary he should be possessed of a 25*l.* freehold under Crown title, or be on a ratepayers' roll. For Maori representation:—Every Maori may vote for the district in which he resides without registration.

NOTE.—In most, if not all the Colonies, lunatics, paupers, and criminals are disqualified from voting. In Victoria the police have recently been admitted to the franchise, but it is believed this privilege is not accorded to them in the other Colonies.

Lower House; payment of members.

19. In Victoria and New South Wales each member of the Lower House is entitled to receive 300*l.* per annum in reimbursement of expenses in the discharge of his parliamentary duties. In South Australia each member receives 200*l.* per annum for his services. In New Zealand each member receives 100*l.* per session for his services; also, in consideration of necessary expenses incurred, 25*l.* per session if he lives within three miles, or 50*l.* if he lives beyond that distance from the Parliament buildings.

Parliamentary representation in various countries.

20. In proportion to population Victoria has a smaller number of representatives in the Lower House of Parliament than any other Australasian Colony, or than Greece or Servia, but a larger number than any other country. New South Wales comes next to Victoria, but is more largely represented than Greece or Servia. All the other Australasian Colonies are more largely represented than any other countries. By the following table, in which the countries are arranged according to the proportion of representatives they respectively have, the country least represented is shown to be the United States of America, and the next least is Brazil:—

Parliamentary Representation in Various Countries.

Country.	Number of Inhabitants.	Lower House of Parliament.	
		Number of Representatives.	Inhabitants to a Representative.
Tasmania	151,472	36	4,208
Queensland	406,658	72	5,648
South Australia	324,484	54	6,009
New Zealand	662,280	95	6,971
Greece	1,979,453	245	8,079
New South Wales	1,122,200	137	8,191
Servia	1,810,606	160	11,316
Victoria	1,118,028	95	11,768
Uruguay	632,250	53	11,929
Norway	1,806,900	114	15,850
Denmark	1,969,039	102	19,304
Chile	2,526,969	126	20,055
Switzerland	2,940,602	145	20,280
Canada	4,406,640	215	20,496
Sweden	4,717,189	222	21,248
Bavaria	5,284,778	159	33,237
Hungary	16,570,146	453	36,579
Roumania	5,376,000	145	37,075
Argentine Republic	3,435,286	86	39,945
Spain	17,226,254	431	39,968
Venezuela	2,121,988	52	40,807
Belgium	5,909,975	132	44,772
Mexico	10,447,974	227	46,026
Holland	4,172,971	86	48,523
Italy	28,459,628	508	56,022
United Kingdom	37,808,892	670	56,431
Columbia	3,878,600	66	58,766
Prussia	27,279,111	432	63,146
Austria	23,070,688	353	65,356
France	38,218,903	584	65,443
Brazil	14,002,335	125	112,019
United States	56,785,456	334	170,016

Municipal government.

21. Municipal or local government is almost universal throughout Victoria, about eighteen-nineteenths of its whole area being divided into urban or rural municipalities. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires. They are regulated under the Local Government Acts (28 Vict., No. 506, and 47 Vict., No. 786), each municipality being a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and capable of suing and of being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and alienating land. The cities, towns, and boroughs now number 59, and the shires 130. They have power to levy rates, and are also subsidised by the State. Their peculiar functions are to make, maintain, and control all streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, watercourses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; also to regulate under proper bye-laws the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, charitable institutions, and the arrange-

ments for sewerage, lighting, water supply, prevention of fire, and carrying on of noxious trades.

Cities, towns, and boroughs.

22. A borough must not be of a greater area than nine square miles, and on being constituted must have a population of inhabitant householders of not less than 300. No point within its limits must be more than six miles distant from any other point. Any borough having a gross revenue of not less than 10,000*l.* may be declared by the Governor in Council a town, and any one having a gross revenue of not less than 20,000*l.* may be declared by the Governor in Council a city.

Shires.

23. Portions of country containing rateable property capable of yielding, upon a rate not exceeding 1*s.* in 1*l.* on the annual value thereof, a sum of 500*l.* may be proclaimed as shires.

Subdivision of districts.

24. The Governor in Council may divide any municipal district into any number of subdivisions not exceeding eight.

Municipal councillors.

25. The number of councillors in a municipality is fixed by the Governor in Council. It must by the statute be some multiple of three, and must not be less than six or more than 24. The number is usually nine. If the district is subdivided, the number of councillors is three for each subdivision. Male persons liable to be rated in respect of property of the rateable value of 20*l.* at least in any municipal district are qualified to hold the office of councillor. Being a contractor or the holder of any office of profit under the council, being an uncertificated or undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, or being convicted or attainted of felony, perjury, or any infamous crime, renders a person incapable of being or continuing to be a councillor. The election of councillors takes place annually. A third part of the councillors retire each year by rotation, but retiring councillors may be re-elected.

Chairman of council.

26. The councillors elect their own chairman, who, in the case of boroughs, is called the mayor; in the case of shires, the president. The chairman becomes a justice of the peace, by virtue of his position during the time he holds office and one year longer.

Municipal electors.

27. Every person (male or female) 21 years of age or upwards, liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district, is entitled to be enrolled as a voter, provided the rates on such property have been fully paid.

Plurality of votes.

28. Plurality of votes for the election of councillors is allowed upon the following scale:—

In Boroughs.

Properties rated under an annual value of 50*l.* - - - -	One vote.
Properties rated at an annual value of 50*l.* to 100*l.* - - -	Two votes.
Properties rated at an annual value of 100*l.* and over - - -	Three votes.

In Shires.

Properties rated under an annual value of 25*l.* - - - - One vote.
Properties rated at an annual value of 25*l.* to 75*l.* - - - Two votes.
Properties rated at an annual value of 75*l.* and over - - - Three votes.

Ten pounds rating insufficient without occupation.

29. No person is allowed to vote for property of less than 10*l.* annual value unless he is the occupier thereof. In other cases either the owner or occupier, but not both, may vote.

Enrolment in subdivisions.

30. Where any municipal district is subdivided the ratepayers are enrolled for the subdivision in which the property in respect of which they are enrolled is situated.

Rateable property.

31. All land situated in a municipal district, except Crown land and land used for public purposes, is rateable property.

General and separate rates.

32. General rates are made and levied in each municipal district. They must not be more than 2*s.* 6*d.*, or less than 6*d.* in the pound of the net annual value of such property. Separate rates in addition, not exceeding 6*d.* in the pound, may, by consent of one-third of the ratepayers in a particular portion of the district, be levied upon the property within such portion, for the execution of works intended for its special benefit.

Governor of Victoria.

33. The present Governor of Victoria is the Right Honourable John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G. Lord Hopetoun assumed office on the 28th November 1889.

Persons employed by Government.

34. With the view of showing the number of persons of different grades in the service of the Victorian Government and their emoluments, the Departments in the following table have been placed in classified arrangement, the number of persons employed and the total amount of salaries and wages paid annually being also shown. Persons temporarily employed, or any whose services are not wholly retained by the State, are not included

Persons Employed by the Victorian Government.—Numbers and Salaries or Wages.

(Exclusive of Persons temporarily or only partially employed.)

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
		£
Executive:—		
His Excellency the Governor - - - - -	1	10,000
Ministers of the Crown - - - - -	10	15,500
Executive Council, Officers of - - - - -	2	1,320
Total - - - -	13	26,820

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
Legislature:—		£
Legislative Council, Officers of	16	6,028
Legislative Assembly, Officers of	28	9,963
Parliament Library	6	1,965
Parliament Refreshment Rooms and Gardens	4	541
"Victorian Hansard"	4	2,175
Total	58	20,672
Administrative:—		
Public Service Board	15	6,300
Premier's Office	9	2,471
Chief Secretary's Office	21	7,304
Government Shorthand Writer	6	2,092
Treasury	110	29,605
Audit Office	40	11,749
Agent-General	8	4,482
Total	209	64,003
Judicial and Legal:—		
Their Honours the Judges	6	18,500
Supreme Court	8	5,766
Law Officers of the Crown	21	10,914
Crown Solicitor	26	6,533
Prothonotary	7	2,413
Master in Equity and Lunacy	12	4,887
Registrar-General	51	9,460
Registrar of Titles	141	31,688
Registrar of Friendly Societies	1	400
Sheriffs	41	8,831
County Courts, Courts of Mines, Insolvency, General, and Petty Sessions.	10	9,878
Police Magistrates and Wardens	22	14,527
Clerks of Courts	111	21,952
Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons	7	1,606
Total	464	147,355
Police and Gaols:—		
Police	1,511	216,234
Penal Establishments and Gaols	245	41,324
Total	1,756	257,558

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
		£
Defences:—		
Defence Department—Civil Staff	34	6,568
Naval Forces—Permanent	238	28,818
Land Forces—Permanent	350	38,209
Total	622	73,595
Collection of Taxes:		
Customs	329	59,627
Distilleries and Excise	48	10,878
Land Tax	2	900
Total	379	71,405
Education, Science, Health, &c.:—		
Education Department—		
Officers, Inspectors, &c.	147	38,438
Teachers	4,600	543,812
Melbourne University	51	20,078
Public Library, Museums, and Gallery	59	10,142
Government Statist	19	4,283
Government Astronomer	11	3,589
Government Botanist	6	1,772
Public Health Department	18	4,829
Hospitals for the Insane	569	57,600
Public Parks, Gardens, and Reserve	6	972
Botanical and Domain Reserves	54	7,140
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	47	7,770
Inspector of Reformatory Schools	3	1,120
Inebriate Asylum	15	600
Aborigines	7	1,308
Total	5,612	703,453
Commercial:—		
Victorian Railways—		
Administrative Officers	1,600	287,416
Employed in working lines open	9,573	1,039,984
Employed in construction	671	112,578
Melbourne Water Supply	91	17,131
Country Water Supply	58	12,530
Post and Telegraph Offices	2,710	308,484
Survey, Sale, and Management of Crown Lands	205	46,943
Marine Board	8	2,050
Ports and Harbours	108	17,152

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
		£
Mercantile Marine	6	1,124
Powder Magazine and Dynamite Hulk	8	1,224
Total	15,038	1,846,616
Industrial:—		
Public Works	183	43,453
Government Printer	194	33,638
Royal Mint	54	10,838
Inspector of Factories and Shops	8	2,141
Total	439	90,070
Agricultural, Pastoral, Mining, &c.:—		
Agriculture, Forests, and Industries	10	2,921
State Forests and Nurseries	26	4,628
Scab Prevention and Diseases of Stock	22	6,805
Mines Department	167	20,571
Fisheries Department	1	420
Total	226	35,345
Grand Total	24,816	3,336,892

Average number and cost of persons employed by Government.

35. According to this table the persons regularly employed in the service of the Government of Victoria number 24,816, and the amount paid to them annually is 3,336,892*l.*, or an average of 134*l.* per head. Comparing these figures with the estimated population at the end of 1889, viz., 1,118,028, it appears that, exclusive of persons casually or not wholly employed, one person in every 45 is in Government employment, at a cost of 2*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* per head of population. It will be observed, however, that over 15,000 persons, or about 60 per cent. of the whole, at a cost of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ million, or 55 per cent. of the whole, are engaged upon the construction and working of the railways or in other commercial departments of the Government, services which, in many other countries, are wholly or partially performed by private enterprise.

Payments in Victoria and New South Wales.

36. Whilst the Government of Victoria employs about 1,300 more persons than the Government of New South Wales, the latter pays 128,000*l.* more than the former in salaries and wages. The payment per person employed is 134*l.* in Victoria, and 147*l.*, or 13*l.* more, in New South Wales.

Salaries of Colonial Governors.

37. Both Victoria and Canada pay their Governor 10,000*l.* per annum, which is the highest amount paid by any British Colony. The Cape of Good Hope comes next with 9,000*l.*, then New South Wales with 7,000*l.* The lowest salaries paid to Governors are in Virgin Islands (300*l.*), and St. Helena, Montserrat, and

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Turks Island (500*l.* each). In the following statement the salaries of Governors or other rulers are arranged in order, the highest being placed first and the rest in succession :—

Salaries of Governors of British Colonies.

Colony.	Salary of Governor.	Colony.	Salary of Governor.
	£		£
Victoria - - -	10,000	Bahamas - - -	2,000
Canada (Governor-General)	10,000	Lagos - - -	1,950
Cape of Good Hope -	9,000	British Honduras - -	1,800
Straits Settlements - -	7,040	Nova Scotia - -	1,800
New South Wales - -	7,000	New Brunswick - -	1,800
Ceylon - - -	6,666	British Columbia - -	1,800
Jamaica - - -	6,000	British Bechuanaland -	1,800
Hong Kong - -	6,000	Labuan and British North Borneo.	1,800
Queensland - - -	5,000	British New Guinea -	1,700
South Australia - -	5,000	Basutoland - -	1,500
Tasmania - - -	5,000	Prince Edward Island -	1,400
New Zealand - -	5,000	N.W. Territories of Canada (Lieutenant-Governor).	1,400
Mauritius - - -	5,000	British Guiana (Lieutenant-Governor).	1,350
Gibraltar - - -	5,000	Zululand (Resident Commissioner).	1,200
Malta - - -	5,000	Falkland Islands - -	1,200
British Guiana - -	5,000	Gambia - - -	1,100
Trinidad - - -	5,000	Seychelles - - -	833
Natal - - -	4,000	St. Vincent - -	800
Cyprus - - -	4,000	St. Lucia - - -	800
Gold Coast - - -	3,500	Dominica - - -	600
Western Australia - -	3,000	St. Christopher and Nevis -	600
Barbados - - -	3,000	Tobago - - -	600
Leeward Islands - -	3,000	Turks and Caicos Islands -	500
Bermudas - - -	2,946	Montserrat - - -	500
Newfoundland - -	2,500	St. Helena - - -	500
Windward Islands - -	2,500	Virgin Islands - -	300
Sierra Leone - -	2,500		
Fiji - - - -	2,000		
Quebec - - -	2,000		
Ontario - - -	2,000		
Manitoba - - -	2,000		

Population, 1889.

38. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1889 was as follows :—

Estimated Population, 31st December 1889.

Males - - - -	593,798
Females - - - -	524,230
Total - -	1,118,028

Mode of computing population estimate.

39. This estimate shows an increase of 27,159, viz., 12,465 males and 14,694 females, upon that for the end of 1888, published last year. The figures have, as usual, been derived from the

numbers returned at the last census, with the addition of those expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures since the census was taken. The official records of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted to 5,972, viz., 4,668 males and 1,304 females, in 1889, or to 47,229, viz., 37,560 males and 9,669 females, during the whole period since the census was taken. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Had no such deductions been made the apparent population at the end of 1889 would have been 1,165,257, viz., 631,358 males and 533,899 females.

Municipal estimate of population.

40. A partial check upon the periodical estimates of population is afforded by means of returns obtained from the municipal authorities, who at the time of making their valuations ought to ascertain the number of persons living upon each property rated. This is not always done correctly; and, besides, in some municipalities the properties are not visited each year for the purpose of rating, in which case the numbers are not counted, but estimates, more or less wide of the truth, are made by the municipal authorities. The aggregate population obtained by means of the municipal returns is thus not so accurate as it might be were due care exercised in every municipality. The sum of the returns for 1889 was 1,096,450,* which, with an allowance to bring it on to the end of the year, and for districts not situated within the limits of any municipality, would give a total of 1,109,350, or 55,907 less than the apparent population,† but only 8,678 less than the reduced estimate adopted. It may be remarked that, when the census of 1881 was taken, the population according to the municipal estimate was found to differ by several thousands from the number then returned, although the difference was not nearly so great as that shown by the apparent population brought on throughout the 10 years which had intervened between it and the previous census, which, it will be remembered, was found to exceed the truth by 67,000.

Mean population, 1889.

41. Supposing the apparent population had been correct, the mean or average population during 1889 would have been 1,148,690, viz., 525,900 males and 622,790 females; but, calculating upon the basis of the reduced estimate, the mean population of the year may be set down as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1889.

Males - - - - -	587,550
Females - - - -	516,750
Total - -	1,104,300

* The returns are usually made up to about the middle of August.

† Or that obtained from the records without allowance for defective returns.

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Increase of population, 1889.

42. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1889 was 33,131, viz., 17,133 males and 15,998 females. Of this increase, 16,967, consisting of 7,649 males and 9,318 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and the remainder, viz., 16,164, consisting of 9,484 males and 6,680 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Population of Australasian Colonies.

43. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian Colony at the end of 1888 and 1889, and the increase of each during the 12 months ended with the latter:—

Estimated Population of Australasian Colonies, 1888 *and* 1889.

Colony.	Estimated Population at end of		Increase.
	1888.	1889.	
Victoria - - - -	1,090,869	1,118,028	27,159
New South Wales - -	1,085,740	1,122,200	36,460
Queensland - - -	387,463	406,658	19,195
South Australia - - -	318,308	324,484	6,176
Western Australia - -	42,137	43,698	1,561
Total - -	2,924,517	3,015,068	90,551
Tasmania - - -	146,149	151,472	5,323
New Zealand - - -	607,380	620,279	12,899
Grand Total -	3,678,046	3,786,819	108,773

NOTE.—The *apparent* population of Victoria was 1,132,126 at the end of 1888, and 1,165,257 at the end of 1889; that of New South Wales was 1,127,245 and 1,169,924 at the end of the same two years. The *apparent* increase of population in 1889 was 33,131 in the case of Victoria, and 42,679 in the case of New South Wales. The population in this table is exclusive of aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

Colonies which have amended their population estimates.

44. Both Victoria and New South Wales have reduced their estimates of population to allow for unrecorded departures which have taken place since the census of 1881 was taken, the former by 47,229 and the latter by 44,699. Moreover, Queensland and New Zealand took censuses in 1886, which led to a reduction on previous estimates of 11,427 persons in the case of the former, and 7,194 in that of the latter. It appears, however, that these two Colonies have not reduced their population estimates since 1886, whilst the other three Colonies have probably not done so since 1881, and as the record of persons departing is more or less incomplete in all of them, there is little doubt that the figures given, especially in the case of the last three Colonies, overstate the truth.

45. The subjoined figures show the estimated per-centage of increase of the population of each Colony during the year 1889, the Colonies being arranged in order according to the rate of increase in each :— Order of Colonies in respect to increase of population.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportionate Increase of Population, 1889.

	Per Cent.
1. Queensland - - - -	4·95
2. Western Australia - - -	3·70
3. Tasmania - - - -	3·64
4. New South Wales - - -	3·36
5. Victoria - - - -	2·49
6. New Zealand - - - -	2·12
7. South Australia - - -	1·94

46. By the totals of the last table it may be ascertained that in 1889 the population of Continental Australia increased by 3·10 per cent., and the population of Continental and Insular Australasia combined increased by 2·96 per cent. Increase in Australia and Australasia, 1889.

47. The populations of the Australasian Colonies in 1881,* at the two previous decennial census periods, also the estimated population in 1889, are shown in the following table:— Population of Australasian Colonies, 1861 to 1889.

Population of Australasian Colonies, 1861, 1871, 1881, *and* 1889.†

Colony.	Population at the end of First Quarter of			Estimated Population, 31st December 1889.
	1861.	1871.	1881.	
Victoria - - -	540,322	731,528	862,346	1,118,028
New South Wales -	350,860	503,981	751,468	1,122,200
Queensland - -	30,059	117,960‡	213,525	406,658
South Australia - -	126,830	185,626	279,865	324,484
Western Australia -	15,100‡	25,270‡	29,708	43,698
Total Australia -	1,063,171	1,564,365	2,136,912	3,015,068
Tasmania - -	89,977	101,020‡	115,705	151,472
New Zealand - -	84,536‡	257,810‡	489,933	620,279
Total Australasia -	1,237,684	1,923,195	2,742,550	3,786,819

* Including enumerated aborigines, the population of the Australian continent at the census of 1881 was 2,166,189, and the population of that continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, was 2,815,924.

† Exclusive of aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

‡ In these cases, where the census was not taken near the end of the first quarter, the figures have been estimated on the basis of the nearest census.

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Increase at each period.

48. From this table it appears that, during the 8¾ years which have elapsed since the census of 1881, the popoulation of the Australasian Colonies, as a whole, is estimated to have increased by about 1,040,000, as compared with not quite 820,000 during the 10 years 1871 to 1881, and with less than 700,000 during the 10 years 1861 to 1871. In the last 8¾ years the increase of New South Wales was about 370,000, or over a third of the whole; Victoria 250,000, or nearly a fourth; Queensland 190,000, or nearly a fifth; and New Zealand 130,000, or about an eighth.

Annual rates of increase, 1861 to 1889.

49. The following table shows the annual rate of increase of the population of each Colony between 1881 and 1889, and in the two previous decennial periods:—

Annual Increase of Population, 1861 *to* 1889.

Colony.	Annual Rate of Increase, per Cent., between		
	1861 and 1871.	1871 and 1881.	1881 and 1889. (Estimated.)
Victoria - - - -	3·07	1·66	3·01
New South Wales - -	3·69	4·08	4·69
Queensland - - -	14·65	6·11	7·64
South Australia - - -	3·88	4·19	1·70
Western Australia - -	5·28	1·63	4·51
Total Australia -	3·94	3·17	4·01
Tasmania - - -	1·14	1·37	3·12
New Zealand - - -	11·80	6·63	2·73
Total Australasia -	4·51	3·61	3·76

Rate of increase since 1881.

50. Except in very small communities, an annual increase to the population of 3 per cent. may be regarded as a high rate, and even that could not under ordinary conditions be maintained except by the aid of immigration. For it rarely happens that over a series of years the rate of natural increase (*i.e.*, by excess of births over deaths) exceeds 2 per cent. Indeed, in almost every country it is below 1½ per cent.; although exceptional instances occur, as in the case of some of the Australasian Colonies, where the rates have over a series of years considerably exceeded even 2 per cent., notably New Zealand, where the rate has averaged as high as 2·8 per cent. Such high rates, however, are unusual, and are generally due to the presence of an abnormally large proportion of the population being at the reproductive ages, consequent

on a considerable influx of adult immigrants. A glance at the last table will show that, assuming the estimates for 1889 to be correct, which can only be verified when a census is taken, an increase of over 3 per cent. per annum had taken place in the populations of all the Colonies except South Australia and New Zealand. Whilst the annual rates of increase in Victoria and Tasmania only slightly exceeded that proportion, those in New South Wales and Western Australia were over 4½ per cent., and the rate of increase in Queensland was as high as 7⅔ per cent. The last-named Colony, however, has little more than a third of the population of either Victoria or New South Wales.

Rates of increase at three periods compared.

51. On comparing the rates of increase at the three periods, it will be observed that the population of Victoria apparently increased nearly twice as fast at the last as at the second period, but not quite so fast as at the first period; also that the population of New South Wales has apparently increased much faster at the last than at either of the former periods. Queensland and New Zealand appear to have had by far the highest rates of increase at the first and second periods, but, whilst Queensland still appears to maintain its high position, New Zealand at the last period is shown to have had the lowest rate of any Colony except South Australia.

Probable Australasian populations, 1891.

52. In view of the increases shown in the table it may fairly be estimated that when the next simultaneous census of the Colonies is taken, viz., in 1891, the inhabitants of the Australian continent will be found to number at least 3,150,000, and those of that continent with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand will be found to number close upon 4,000,000.

Probable rate of increase, 1881–1891.

53. In the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1881, the rate of increase at the population of the Australian continent was about 36 per cent., and of the continent, combined with Tasmania and New Zealand, about 42 per cent. Judging from the increase which is estimated to have taken place in the 8¾ years intervening between the date of the census and the end of 1889, it appears probable that both these increases, especially the first-named, will be much exceeded in the 10 years ending with the next census (1891), and that the rate of increase of the population of Continental Australia will be found to have been about 47 per cent., and that of Continental and Insular Australasia combined about 44 per cent.

Time Victorian population will double.

54. Between the censuses of 1871 and 1881 the increase of the Victorian population was only 18 per cent. At this rate the population of this Colony will double itself in 42 years. There is reason to believe, however, that since the last census the population has been increasing at a much faster rate, and that it may be expected to double itself in a considerably shorter period.

Urban and rural population.

55. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts, the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne), extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns,

including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the Colony. In each of these districts the population is shown at the end of 1889, as well as the average population during that year; also the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole Colony, and the number of persons to the square mile.

Urban and Rural Population, 1889.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population at end of 1889.			Mean Population, 1889.
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Square Mile.	
Towns { Metropolitan	256	458,470	41·01	1,791	445,220
Towns { Extra Metropolitan -	376	196,110	17·54	522	196,400
Total Urban -	632	654,580	58·55	1,036	641,620
Extra Urban or Rural -	87,252	463,448	41·45	5·3	462,680
Total of Victoria -	87,884	1,118,028	100·00	12·7	1,104,300

Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

56. In 1889 the population of the metropolis was equal to over two-fifths of that of the whole Colony. This proportion is fast increasing, as will be observed by the following figures:—

Proportion of Population of Greater Melbourne to Total Population of Victoria.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
1861 -	25·89	1881 -	32·81
1871 -	28·87	1889 -	41·01

Metropolitan populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

57. The following is a statement of the population of the metropolis or principal city of each of the Australasian Colonies according to the census of 1881. The figures in all cases denote

the number of inhabitants living in the suburbs, as well as those resident within the corporate limits:—

Metropolitan Populations of the Australasian Colonies, 1881.

Name of City.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Melbourne - - -	139,006	143,941	282,947
Sydney - - - -	113,928	110,283	224,211
Adelaide - - -	51,716	52,148	103,864
Brisbane - - -	15,296	15,813	31,109
Hobart - - -	13,162	14,086	27,248
Wellington - - -	10,226	10,337	20,563
Perth - - - -	2,981	2,841	5,822

58. In Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane, Wellington, and Adelaide, when the census of 1881 was taken, females were more numerous than males, but in the other chief cities named the latter were slightly in excess. The following are the proportions of the sexes according to the returns of that census:— Proportions of the sexes in Australasian capitals.

Proportions of the Sexes in Capitals of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

	Females per 100 Males.
Hobart - - - - -	107·02
Melbourne - - - -	103·55
Brisbane - - - -	103·38
Wellington - - - -	101·09
Adelaide - - - -	100·84
Sydney - - - - -	96·80
Perth - - - - -	95·30

59. Estimates, without distinction of sexes, of the population of all these cities have been made for the middle of the year 1889, and in the followng table the figures representing these are placed side by side with the figures derived from the returns of the census of 1881; the numerical and centesimal increases in the eight and a quarter years since the census was taken being also shown. Metropolitan populations, 1881 and 1889.

Metropolitan Population of the Australian Colonies, 1881 *and* 1889.

Name of City.	Population.		Increase in 8¼ Years.	
	1881 (End of First Quarter enumerated).	1889 (Middle of the Year, estimated).	Numerical.	Centesimal.
Melbourne - -	282,947	445,220	162,273	57·35
Sydney - - -	224,211	374,207	149,996	66·90
Adelaide - - -	103,864	120,600	16,736	16·11
Brisbane - -	31,109	91,300	60,191	193·48
Hobart - - -	27,248	35,043	7,795	28·61
Wellington - -	20,563	32,050	11,487	55·86
Perth - - -	5,822	9,000	3,178	54·59

Increases of metropolitan populations compared.

60. According to the figures the numerical increase of the Melbourne population has been greater than that of any of the other metropolitan cities of Australasia. In point of centesimal increase, Brisbane and Sydney appear to have outstripped Melbourne, but it is doubtful whether the boundaries within which the population was calculated as at the middle of 1889 do not extend further than those within which that population was made up when the returns of the census of 1881 were compiled.

Proportions of metropolitan to total populations.

61. When the census of 1881 was taken, the metropolitan population formed a larger proportion of the total population in South Australia than it did in any other of the Australasian Colonies; in the middle of 1889, however, that position was occupied by Melbourne, Adelaide having fallen to the second place. The following were the proportions in each Colony at that time:—

Proportion of Metropolitan to Total Populations in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

	Per Cent.
Melbourne - - - -	40·32
Adelaide - - - -	37·52
Sydney - - - -	33·90
Hobart - - - -	23·55
Brisbane - - - -	22·99
Perth - - - -	20·97
Wellington - - -	5·22

Population of chief extra-metropolitan towns.

62. Next to the municipalities embraced under the head of Greater Melbourne, the most important towns in Victoria are—Ballarat, comprising three municipalities; Sandhurst, comprising two; Geelong, comprising three; and Castlemaine, comprising two municipalities. The estimated populations of these with their immediate suburbs, in 1889, were as follow:—

Population of Four Extra-Metropolitan Towns, 1889.

Town.	Population.
Ballarat - - - -	42,547
Sandhurst - - - -	36,630
Geelong - - - -	21,380
Castlemaine - - - -	9,220

Order of Colonies in respect to population and sex.

63. Victoria is by far the most densely populated Colony of the group; but in South Australia there exists a nearer approach to equality in the numbers of the sexes than in Victoria. The following is the order in which the Colonies stand in respect of these two matters:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Density of Population, 1889.

1. Victoria.
2. New Zealand.
3. Tasmania.
4. New South Wales.
5. Queensland.
6. South Australia.
7. Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in reference to Equality of Sexes, 1889.

1. South Australia.
2. Victoria.
3. Tasmania.
4. New Zealand.
5. New South Wales.
6. Western Australia.
7. Queensland.

Population of Australia and Australasia.

64. At the end of 1889 there were on the continent of Australia over three million inhabitants; and in Australasia, including not only the continental Colonies, but also Tasmania and New Zealand, there were close on three million seven hundred and eighty-seven thousand. The estimated numbers, as well as the propor-

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tions of the sexes and the density of population in each of the nine years ended with 1889, were as follow :—

Population of Australasia, 1881 *to* 1889.

—	Year.	Estimated Population on the 31st December.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Continent of Australia - -	1881	1,191,873	1,010,340	2,202,213	84·77	·748
	1882	1,234,562	1,049,023	2,283,585	84·97	·775
	1883	1,303,554	1,099,623	2,403,177	84·36	·816
	1884	1,356,090	1,141,742	2,497,832	84·19	·848
	1885	1,409,851	1,183,306	2,593,157	83·93	·881
	1886	1,469,843	1,230,122	2,699,965	83·70	·917
	1887	1,528,593	1,277,319	2,805,912	83·56	·953
	1888*	1,594,352	1,330,165	2,924,517	83·43	·993
	1889	1,640,212	1,374,856	3,015,068	83·82	1·024
Continent of Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand - -	1881	1,530,093	1,291,953	2,822,046	84·44	·918
	1882	1,582,996	1,340,775	2,923,771	84·70	·951
	1883	1,665,191	1,405,083	3,070,274	84·39	·999
	1884	1,726,604	1,458,879	3,185,483	84·50	1·036
	1885	1,791,664	1,510,510	3,302,174	84·30	1·074
	1886	1,860,812	1,565,750	3,426,562	84·14	1·114
	1887	1,929,396	1,622,355	3,551,751	84·09	1·155
	1888*	1,997,329	1,680,717	3,678,046	84·15	1·196
	1889	2,052,794	1,734,025	3,786,819	84·47	1·231

Sexes diverging from equality.

65. According to the experience of the nine years named, the proportionate excess of males over females shows a tendency to increase rather than to diminish on the Australian continent, but this is not the case in Australasia, as a whole.

Australasia compared with other British possessions.

66. The Australasian Colonies occupy less than three-eighths, and Victoria nearly a ninetieth, of the whole area of the British Dominions. The Australasian Colonies contain nearly a seventieth, and Victoria contains nearly a two hundred and fortieth, of the population of the whole British Empire. The area of Australasia is somewhat smaller than that of Canada, which is the largest British possession; and the population of Canada exceeds that of Australasia by not quite a million and a quarter. The population of Victoria is exceeded by that of no British dependency except India, Canada, Burmah, Ceylon, the Cape of Good Hope, and the Gold Coast.

Area and population of the world.

67. The following is an estimate of the area and population of the world and its various continents. The scanty population of Australasia and Polynesia will be at once noticed. It will also

* Figures for 1888 revised and altered since last publication.

be observed that by far the greater proportion, or about five-ninths, of the total population of the earth is distributed throughout Asia, but that the density of population there is little more than half that of Europe :—

The World.—Area and Population.

Continents.	Area in English Square Miles.	Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Europe - - -	3,713,340	349,873,000	94·2
Asia - - - -	17,150,210	830,599,000	48·4
Africa - - -	11,514,770	203,321,000	17·7
America - - -	15,311,400	121,335,000	7·9
Australasia and Polynesia -	3,455,760	5,071,000	1·47
Polarland - - -	1,728,640	82,000	·05
Total - -	52,874,120	1,510,281,000	28·6

68. The arrivals and departures by sea recorded during 1889, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow :— Immigration and emigration, 1888.

Immigration and Emigration, 1889.

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	56,163	28,419	84,582
Departures by sea - - -	46,679	21,739	68,418
Excess of arrivals - -	9,484	6,680	16,164

69. Whilst the records of arrivals show smaller numbers for 1889 than for 1888 by 17,450, the records of departures show larger numbers by 8,189; the apparent net gain by excess of immigration over emigration was therefore less in the year under review than the previous one by 25,639. In reference to this large falling off in the net immigration it should be explained that the immigration in 1888 was much swelled by the large number of persons who were attracted by the opening of the Melbourne International Exhibition in that year, whilst the emigration in 1889 was swelled by these persons who left the Colony about the time of the closing of the Exhibition in that year. Gain by immigration, 1888 and 1889 compared.

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Finance account, 1888–9.

70. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1889; the excess of the former over the latter; the credit balance brought forward from 1887–8, and that carried forward to 1889–90:—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1888–9.*

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,675,989	17	7
Expenditure - - -	7,919,902	0	1
Receipts in excess of expenditure - - -	756,087	17	6
Credit balance from 1887–8 -	948,758	4	7
Credit balance carried forward to 1889–90 - - -	1,704,846	2	1

Large surplus of revenue, 1888–9.

71. It is thus shown that during the financial year under review there was a surplus of revenue amounting to 756,088*l.*, which being added to a credit balance of 948,758*l.* brought forward from 1887–8, a total is arrived at of 1,704,846*l.* to be carried forward to 1889–90. This exceeds by close on 1,100,000*l.* the largest credit balance ever previously remaining in Victoria at the end of any financial year.

Changes in sources of revenue.

72. During the year 1888–9 no changes were made affecting the incidence of taxation, or tending to increase or diminish the amounts derived from other sources of revenue, excepting the railway income. As the railways were extended by an average length of 197 miles during the year, the extra revenue derivable therefrom, allowing 1,000*l.* per mile, should have been 197,000*l.* Moreover, an unforeseen increase of 84,600*l.*, as compared with 1887–8, occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons—a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. Thus, in consequence of the extension of railways and accidental circumstances, the receipts of 1888–9, as compared with those of the previous 12 months, show an increase of 281,600*l.*

Revenue, 1887–8 and 1888–9 compared.

73. The total revenue raised in 1888–9 was about 1,070,000*l.* in excess of that in the previous year; but by making allowances

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly in July 1890 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1889–90 was 8,511,105*l.*, and the expenditure was 9,750,204*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 1,239,099*l.*, which amount being deducted from the balance at the beginning of the financial year leaves a credit balance of 465,747*l.* to be carried forward.

for receipts from sources not common to both years, as shown in the last paragraph, the excess is reduced to 787,000*l.*, thus :—

Comparative Revenues, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

	1887–8.	1888–9.
	£	£
Revenue - - - - -	7,607,598	8,675,990
Deduct amounts from sources not common to both years - - - -	—	281,600
Comparative amounts - - -	7,607,598	8,394,390

Revenue, 1888–9 and previous year.

74. The revenue of 1888–9 was by far the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1887–8, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realised, by 1,070,000*l.*, as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1886–7, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been raised, by over 1,940,000*l.* In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from 4,600,000*l.* to 8,700,000*l.*, or by 89 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only about 29 per cent.

Expenditure, 1888–9 and former years.

75. The expenditure of 1888–9 was also much above that of any previous year, it being larger than in 1887–8, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by over 630,000*l.* larger than in 1886–7, which came next by about 1,360,000*l.* Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–4 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions, and from 1884–5 to 1888–9 it increased from six to close on eight millions sterling.

Revenue and expenditure per head, 1851 to 1888–9.

76. The revenue and expenditure per head for each year from that of separation from New South Wales to 1888–9 will be found in the following table :—

Revenue and Expenditure per Head, 1851 *to* 1888–9.

Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1851 - -	86,825	4 10 5	4 14 8
1852 - -	132,905	12 5 11	7 7 4
1853 - -	195,378	16 11 2	16 9 3
1854 - -	267,371	11 11 0	15 13 1
1855 - -	338,315	8 1 4	7 14 6

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Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1856 - -	380,942	7 16 1	7 0 1
1857 - -	430,347	7 14 8	6 17 11
1858 - -	483,827	6 2 11	6 7 10
1859 - -	517,390	6 6 1	6 11 3
1860 - -	534,055	5 15 5	6 4 2
1861 - -	539,824	5 9 4	5 14 6
1862 - -	548,080	5 19 3	5 10 11
1863 - -	562,960	4 18 6	5 2 5
1864 - -	586,450	5 0 9	4 19 11
1865 - -	611,218	5 0 8	4 17 7
1866 - -	629,038	4 17 11	5 2 5
1867 - -	644,276	4 19 10	5 0 7
1868 - -	663,092	4 17 5	4 16 2
1869 - -	687,202	4 18 6	4 13 10
1870 - -	713,195	4 11 5	4 16 2
1871 (six months)	731,528	2 6 3	2 8 0
1871–2 - -	747,412	4 19 11	4 17 11
1872–3 - -	758,984	4 16 0	4 12 4
1873–4 - -	772,039	5 6 5	5 8 3
1874–5 - -	783,274	5 8 2	5 10 3
1875–6 - -	791,399	5 9 4	5 15 7
1876–7 - -	801,717	5 17 10	5 8 9
1877–8 - -	815,494	5 10 6	5 13 8
1878–9 - -	827,439	5 11 8	5 16 10
1879–80 - -	840,620	5 9 11	5 16 0
1880–81 - -	860,067	6 0 7	5 18 10
1881–2 - -	880,218	6 7 1	5 16 11
1882–3 - -	900,222	6 4 8	6 5 7
1883–4 - -	921,743	6 8 9	6 4 0
1884–5 - -	946,045	6 13 0	6 9 10
1885–6 - -	971,145	6 13 6	6 14 2
1886–7 - -	1,003,100	6 14 3	6 10 10
1887–8 - -	1,038,130	7 6 7	7 0 5
1888–9 - -	1,085,630	7 19 10	7 5 11

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1888-9 and former years.

77. The revenue per head in 1888–9 was larger by 13*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure per head larger by 5*s.* 6*d.*, than in the previous year. Both were larger than in any year since 1855. It will be observed that, in proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–3, but ever since the latter a gradual increase has taken place, which, with slight fluctuations, has been maintained up to the present time.

Heads of revenue, 1887–8 and 1888–9.

78. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz.:—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1888–9, 3,750,000*l.*, or 43½ per cent., was derived from taxation; 616,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown lands; 3,909,000*l.*, or 45 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz.:—Public Works and Post and Telegraphs, to which the State Railways contributed as much as 3,105,000*l.*, or 36 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to

401,000*l.*, or about 4½ per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 616,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 495,000*l.*—being equal to 5¾ per cent. of the total revenue—was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 121,000*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the Railway Construction Account. In 1888–9, however, the amount so paid represented barely one-fifth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. The following is a statement of the amounts received under various heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887–8.	1888–9.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,353,050	2,879,830	526,780	—
Excise	128,369	146,555	18,186	—
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	34,327	45,884	11,557	—
Licences (business)	21,002	23,904	2,902	—
Duties on estates of deceased persons	151,861	236,449	84,588	—
Duties on bank notes	27,879	34,023	6,144	—
Stamp duty	230,000	260,000	30,000	—
Land tax	124,515	123,025	—	1,490
Total	3,071,003	3,749,670	678,667	—
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	549,149	494,733	—	54,416
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	106,817	119,778	12,961	—
Penalties under Land Acts	301	1,517	1,216	—
Total	656,267	616,028	—	40,239
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	2,741,488	3,104,907	363,419	—
Water supply	235,743	245,734	9,991	—
Other public works	4,764	5,805	1,041	—
Total	2,981,995	3,356,446	374,451	—

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Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received. 1887-8	Amounts Received. 1888-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.	£	£	£	£
Postal receipts, &c. - - -	354,796	402,834	48,038	—
Telegraph receipts, &c. - - -	130,737	150,043	19,306	—
Total - - - -	485,533	552,877	67,344	—
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges - - - -	10,377	10,051	—	326
„ subsidy returned - - -	3,874	3,642	—	232
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamp) -	164,721	174,998	10,277	—
Interest on public account - - -	136,811	107,888	—	28,923
Rents (other than Crown lands) - -	2,908	3,224	316	—
Reimbursements in aid - - -	69,041	67,130	—	1,911
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	25,068	34,036	8,968	—
Total - - - -	412,800	400,969	—	11,331
Grand Total - - -	7,607,598	8,675,990	1,068,392	—

Heads of expenditure, 1887-8 and 1888-9.

79. Of the total expenditure of Victoria in 1888–9, 1,302,000*l.*, or 16½ per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attacks; 774,000*l.*, or 10 per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 284,000*l.*, or nearly 4 per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 101,000*l.*, or nearly 1¼ per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, being slightly less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 3,837,000*l.*, or 48 per cent., was absorbed in working the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 1,875,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, 619,000*l.* on post and telegraphs, and 1,343,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction; 116,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 87,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 35,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 192,000*l.*, or 2½ per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 261,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary annual expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 930,000*l.*, or 11½ per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on productive and unproductive works of a permanent character, viz., 121,000*l.* on railways, and 809,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (341,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 435,000*l.* The following is a classification of

the expenditure under 9 divisions and 26 subsidiary heads, during the years 1887–8 and 1888–9, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887-8.	1888-9.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list	45,361	40,564	—	4,797
Legislature	58,631	73,216	14,585	—
Civil establishment	132,983	146,617	13,634	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	88,484	96,610	8,126	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	43,329	53,916	10,587	—
Total	368,788	410,923	42,135	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	211,111	217,180	6,069	—
Police	240,840	261,329	20,489	—
Gaols and penal establishments	65,385	66,163	778	—
Defences—Naval and Military	322,119	346,623	24,504	—
Total	839,455	891,295	51,840	—
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.	722,102	774,449	52,347	—
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	278,879	283,986	5,107	—
Total	1,000,981	1,058,435	57,454	—
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	106,408	100,573	—	5,835
Agriculture, &c.	69,947	73,229	3,282	—
Mining	117,837	119,139	1,302	—
Total	294,192	292,941	—	1,251
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	1,574,786	1,803,124	228,338	—
„ Construction account	118,090	120,873	2,783	—
Water supply	46,966	71,989	25,023	—
Other public works	718,427	808,803	90,376	—
Total	2,458,269	2,804,789	346,520	—
Post and telegraphs	643,113	619,070	—	24,043
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,070,950	1,126,765	55,815	—
„ „ Water supply	199,718	216,195	16,477	—
„ „ Other works	114,453	116,282	1,829	—
Total	1,385,121	1,459,242	74,121	—

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Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887-8.	1888-9.		
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - - -	83,975	87,412	3,437	—
Harbours and lights - - -	32,460	34,595	2,135	—
Total - - - -	116,435	122,007	5,572	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy - - - -	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines - - - -	10,982	10,949	—	33
Miscellaneous services - - -	149,815	230,251	80,436	—
Total - - - -	180,797	261,200	80,403	—
Grand Total - -	7,287,151	7,919,902	632,751	—

Expenditure of loans, &c.

80. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1883–4 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1889.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1883-4.	1883-4.	1884-5.	1885-6.	1886-7.	1887-8.	1888-9.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	18,670,121	1,191,132	901,577	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	28,740,584
Water supply -	3,735,974	304,585	172,465	235,485	373,994	462,562	484,068	5,769,133
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	390,761	45,505	568	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	564,274
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	861,577	36,923	69,995	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	1,177,495
Yarra bridge - -	1,800	8,382	3,663	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	400	13,706	46,077	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	236,638
Total - -	24,263,031	1,600,233	1,194,345	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	37,211,967

Heads of revenue of Australasian Colonies.

81. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received, under various heads of revenue, in the respective Australasian Colonies during the most recent year for which the

particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources. VICTORIA

Heads of Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria, 1888-9.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation :—							
Customs, &c. -	2,879,830	1,883,058	1,344,504	533,665	159,059	297,912	1,390,717
Other taxes -	869,840	798,825	233,167	205,688	20,885	107,895	640,941
Total - -	3,749,670	2,681,883	1,577,671	739,353	179,944	405,807	2,031,658
Crown lands -	616,028	2,268,253	638,472	319,510	81,348	76,859	297,856
Railways - -	3,104,907	2,497,930	769,275	956,848	37,302	60,237	1,019,791
Post and telegraphs	402,834	562,909	228,701	214,600	22,701	50,648	318,558
Other sources -	802,551	875,385	248,978	264,245	35,708	46,517	441,952
Total - -	8,675,990	8,886,360	3,463,097	2,494,556	357,003	640,068	4,109,815
	Proportions per cent.						
Taxation :—							
Customs, &c. -	33·20	21·19	38·83	21·39	44·55	46·54	33·84
Other taxes -	10·03	8·99	6·73	8·25	5·85	16·86	15·59
Total - -	43·23	30·18	45·56	29·64	50·40	63·40	49·43
Crown lands -	7·10	25·53	18·44	12·81	22·79	12·01	7·25
Railways - -	35·79	28·11	22·21	38·36	10·45	9·41	24·81
Post and telegraphs	4·64	6·33	6·60	8·60	6·36	7·91	7·75
Other sources -	9·24	9·85	7·19	10·59	10·00	7·27	10·76
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the 12 months ended 30th June 1889, but those for the other Colonies are for the calendar year 1888. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries, are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland; also, it is believed, in those of some of the other Colonies.

Proportion of revenue from different sources.

82. It will be observed that the proportion of revenue raised by taxation—chiefly derived from Customs duties—varied from about 30 per cent. in South Australia and New South Wales to 63 per cent. in Tasmania, the proportion in Victoria being 43 per cent., or lower than in any of the other Colonies except New South Wales and South Australia. The revenue from railways also formed a very large proportion of the total revenue of all the Colonies, varying from a tenth in Western Australia and Tasmania to more than a third of the whole in Victoria and South Australia. The Crown lands revenue varied in the different Colonies from 7 to 26 per cent. of the whole, the latter proportion prevailing in New South Wales, and that from post and telegraphs from less than 5 to over 8½ per cent.

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Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

83. It will be remarked that the land revenue was nearly four times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone much more than accounts for the larger total revenue of the former Colony. Indeed, if the land revenue be deducted from the total revenues of the two Colonies, the revenue of Victoria, notwithstanding the cross entries in the New South Wales returns already alluded to, would exceed the revenue of that Colony by 1,442,000*l.*, the respective amounts for 1888 being 8,060,000*l.* and 6,618,000*l.* It also appears that the railway revenue of Victoria exceeded that of New South Wales by over 600,000*l.*; in the former Colony it forms much more than one-third, and in New South Wales more than one-fourth, of the total revenue. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by over one million, the excess appearing chiefly under the head of Customs. Under other heads the revenue in New South Wales from post and telegraphs exceeded that in Victoria by 160,000*l.*, and that from other sources by 73,000*l.*

Sources of revenue in Australasia.

84. Of the 27½ millions sterling which formed the total revenue of the Australasian Colonies in 1888 over 10½ millions, or nearly two-fifths, was raised by taxation, chiefly through the Customs; 8 millions, or something less than one-third, was derived from railways; over 4⅓ millions from Crown lands; and not quite 2 millions from post and telegraphs. The following are the exact figures, also the amounts per head, distinguishing those relating to Continental Australia from those relating to Australasian Colonies taken as a whole:—

Heads of Revenue in Australia and Australasia, 1888.

Heads of Revenue.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Proportions per Cent.	Amount.	Proportions per Cent.
Taxation—	£		£	
Customs - -	6,273,336	27·50	7,961,965	28·89
Other taxes - -	1,976,518	8·67	2,725,354	9·89
Total - -	8,249,854	36·17	10,687,319	38·78
Crown lands - -	3,963,850	17·38	4,338,565	15·74
Railways - -	7,002,843	30·70	8,082,871	29·33
Posts and telegraphs -	1,514,444	6·64	1,883,650	6·84
Other sources - -	2,077,623	9·11	2,566,092	9·31
Total - -	22,808,614	100·00	27,558,497	100·00

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Heads of expenditure of Australasian Colonies.

85. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts expended under a few of the principal heads in the respective Colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available :—

Heads of Expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Heads of Expenditure.	Victoria. (1888-9.)	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (working expenses).	1,803,124	1,578,590	531,144	483,207	44,080	87,906	675,895
Post and telegraphs -	619,070	616,371	315,763	179,492	35,429	63,404	252,831
Interest and expenses of public debt, &c.	1,459,242	1,745,695	1,015,667	717,906	63,820	184,613	1,569,556
Immigration - -	—	7,854	11,031	559	5,820	502	—
Other services -	4,038,466	4,830,341	1,494,800	995,235	235,980	373,061	1,464,630
Total - -	7,919,902	8,778,851	3,368,405	2,376,399	385,129	709,486	3,962,912
	Proportions per cent.						
Railways (working expenses).	22·77	17·98	15·77	20·33	11·45	12·39	17·05
Post and telegraphs -	7·82	7·02	9·37	7·56	9·20	8·94	6·38
Interest and expenses of public debt, &c.	18·42	19·89	30·15	30·21	16·57	26·02	39·61
Immigration - -	—	·09	·33	·02	1·51	·07	—
Other services -	50·99	55·02	44·38	41·88	61·27	52·58	36·96
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Heads of expenditure in Australasian Colonies compared.

86. It will be observed that the railway expenditure was smaller by nearly 225,000*l.* in New South Wales than in Victoria, where it amounted to over $1\frac{3}{4}$ million sterling, or nearly a fourth of the total expenditure, but the interest payable on the public debt was larger by nearly 290,000*l.* in the former than in the latter Colony. In New Zealand also, which has less than half the revenue of Victoria, the interest on the public debt exceeded that in Victoria by over 110,000*l.* Four of the Colonies have now an annual charge for interest varying from 1 to close on $1\frac{3}{4}$ million sterling. In Victoria and New South Wales the postal and telegraph expenditure exceeds 610,000*l.*, it being somewhat higher in the former than in the latter Colony. The expenditure on immigration should be considered in conjunction with that expended during the year from loans.

Proportion of expenditure on various objects.

87. It will also be noticed that nearly half the total expenditure in Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania, nearly three-fifths in Queensland and South Australia, and over three-fifths in New

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Zealand, was devoted to the working of railways and post and telegraphs, and the payment of interest on the public debt. In Victoria the railway working expenses alone amounted to nearly one-fourth of the total, and the interest on the public debt to nearly a fifth, the former being much higher than in the other Colonies, whilst the latter was not nearly so high in Victoria as in Tasmania, where it amounted to 26 per cent., or in Queensland or South Australia, where it was 30 per cent., or in New Zealand, where it was as high as 39 per cent. The proportion expended on post and telegraph services, it will be noticed, varied from 6 per cent. in New Zealand and 7 per cent. in New South Wales to over 9 per cent. in Queensland and Western Australia. In Victoria it was not quite 8 per cent.

Heads of expenditure in Australasia.

88. The following is a summary of the aggregate expenditure under the various heads referred to for Australia and Australasia :—

Heads of Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1888.

Heads of Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways (working expenses) - -	4,211,807	18·98	4,975,608	18·52
Post and telegraphs -	1,790,168	8·07	2,106,403	7·84
Interest on public debt, &c.	4,928,209	22·20	6,682,378	24·87
Immigration - -	25,269	·11	25,771	·10
Other services - -	11,240,482	50·64	13,078,173	48·67
Total - -	22,195,935	100·00	26,868,333	100·00

NOTE.—The amounts in this table are summarized from statements of the amounts expended in the various Colonies for the year ended 31st December 1888, except in the case of Victoria, for which Colony the amounts for the year ended 30th June 1888 have been taken.

Loan expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

89. In addition to the expenditure of amounts derived from the general revenue, as shown in the last two tables, all the Colonies spend large sums of borrowed money, chiefly on railways and waterworks, but also, in some instances, on the construction of electric telegraphs, harbour works and lighthouses, defence works, roads and bridges, school buildings, and other public works, and on immigration. The following table shows the total

loan expenditure of the various Colonies during 1888, also the amounts per head :—

Expenditure from Loans in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Expenditure from Loans during 1888.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	2,389,944	2 6 1
New South Wales	1,991,306	1 17 5
Queensland	1,574,258	4 3 6
South Australia	988,803	3 2 4
Western Australia	43,858	1 0 9
Total	6,988,169	2 9 3
Tasmania	412,436	2 17 2
New Zealand	739,674	1 4 5
Grand Total	8,140,279	2 5 4

NOTE.—In this table the figures for Victoria relate to the year ended 30th June 1888, those for the other Colonies to that ended 31st December.

Taxation.

90. The amounts whereof revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria the former class consists of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licences, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the Mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1888–9.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation	3,749,670
„ „ otherwise	4,926,320
Total	8,675,990

Taxation per head.

91. In 1888–9 over 43 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation; and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 1,085,630, an average will be obtained of 3*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* to each individual. The following table contains a statement of

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the gross amount of taxation, the average amount per head, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue, during each year since 1853:—

Taxation, 1853 *to* 1888–9.

Year.	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1853 - -	800,577	4 1 11	24·74
1854 - -	1,052,462	3 18 8	34·08
1855 - -	1,193,309	3 10 6	43·73
1856 - -	1,458,647	3 16 7	49·07
1857 - -	1,331,362	3 1 10	40·00
1858 - -	1,414,511	2 18 6	47·57
1859 - -	1,414,760	2 14 8	43·38
1860 - -	1,330,761	2 9 10	43·11
1861 - -	1,244,389	2 6 1	42·15
1862 - -	1,183,194	2 3 2	36·19
1863 - -	1,158,219	2 1 2	41·74
1864 - -	1,167,036	1 19 10	39·49
1865 - -	1,214,479	1 19 9	39·47
1866 - -	1,219,567	1 18 9	39·61
1867 - -	1,516,231	2 7 1	47·14
1868 - -	1,352,818	2 0 10	41·87
1869 - -	1,539,495	2 4 10	45·49
1870 - -	1,394,333	1 19 1	42·75
1871 (six months) -	724,261	0 19 10	42·82
1871-2 - -	1,612,034	2 3 2	43·17
1872-3 - -	1,784,056	2 7 0	48·96
1873-4 - -	1,896,842	2 9 2	46·19
1874-5 - -	1,724,822	2 4 0	40·71
1875-6 - -	1,780,392	2 5 0	41·16
1876-7 - -	1,770,685	2 4 2	37·48
1877-8 - -	1,712,953	2 2 0	38·03
1878-9 - -	1,730,088	2 1 10	37·44
1879-80 - -	1,690,923	2 0 3	36·59
1880-81 - -	2,003,704	2 6 7	38·64
1881-2 - -	2,317,706	2 12 8	41·44
1882-3 - -	2,334,255	2 11 10	41·60
1883-4 - -	2,318,520	2 10 4	39·07
1884-5 - -	2,548,171	2 13 10	40·51
1885-6 - -	2,634,560	2 14 3	40·65
1886-7 - -	2,739,635	2 14 8	40·68
1887-8 - -	3,071,003	2 19 2	40·37
1888-9 - -	3,749,670	3 9 1	43·22

NOTE.—An export duty on gold existed from May 1855 to the end of 1867. The receipts from that source have not, for the purposes of this table, been considered as taxation.

Taxation of Australia and Australasia.

92. The total taxation levied on the continent of Australia in 1888 amounted to $8\frac{1}{4}$ millions sterling, and the total taxation of the Colonies on the continent, added to that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to over $10\frac{1}{2}$ million sterling. The exact

figures will be found in the following table, also the average amount of taxation per head of the population, and the proportion that the taxation bore to the total revenue:— VICTORIA.

Taxation of Australia and Australasia, 1888.*

	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Per-centage of Total Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia - - - -	8,249,854	2 18 1	36·17
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand -	10,687,319	2 19 6	38·78

93. By comparing the above figures with those of this Colony, it will be found that in Victoria the taxation per head of the population is about 10*s.* higher, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue is higher by about a tenth than the corresponding items in the Australasian Colonies as a whole. Comparison of Victoria and Australasia.

94. The public debt of Victoria amounted on 30th June 1889† to 37,627,382*l.*, consisting of moneys:— Public debt.

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,529,482
,, England - -	36,097,900
Total - -	37,627,382

95. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1889 was 47,944,902*l.*; but a total of 10,317,520*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,103,100*l.* out of the general revenue, and 8,214,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1889 was reduced to 37,627,382*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the Purposes for which loans were incurred.

* In the case of Victoria the figures for 1887–8 have been taken.

† On the 30th June 1890 the public debt amounted to 41,377,693*l.*

amount outstanding on the 30th June 1889, are shown in the following table :—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Purposes.	Total Amount Borrowed.	Amount Paid off.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June 1889.
	£	£	£
Railways - - - -	29,167,719	68,100	29,099,619
Water supply—			
Melbourne - - - -	2,446,456	800,000	1,646,455
Country - - - -	3,992,172	—	3,992,173
Parliament houses - - -	246,453	—	246,453
Law courts - - - -	354,260	—	354,260
Public offices - - - -	166,195	—	166,195
Defences - - - -	100,000	—	100,000
State schools - - - -	1,105,557	—	1,105,557
Yarra Bridge - - - -	108,043	—	108,043
Harbours, &c. - - - -	275,554	—	275,554
Graving-dock - - - -	350,464	—	350,464
Tramways in country districts - -	182,609	—	182,609
Melbourne and Geelong improvements -	735,000	735,000	—
Treasury bonds - - - -	500,000	500,000	—
	39,730,482	2,103,100	37,627,382
Redemption of loans - - -	8,214,420	8,214,420	—
Total - - -	47,944,902	10,317,520	37,627,382

Rates of interest.

96. Only about a twelfth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst over two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 6 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1889 :—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
6 per cent. - - - -	1,126,100
5 per cent. - - - -	2,603,800
4½ per cent. - - - -	5,000,000
4 per cent. - - - -	25,897,482
3½ per cent. - - - -	3,000,000
Total - -	37,627,382

Interest on debt.

97. More than two-thirds of the interest on the debt is payable in July and January, and the remainder in October and April. About nineteen-twentieths of the interest is payable in London, and the remainder in Melbourne. The following table shows the amounts payable during the ensuing financial year at those times and places on the debt existing on the 30th June 1889:—

Interest on Public Debt.

Rate per Cent.	When Due.	Amount payable Annually—		
		In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
		£	£	£
6	July and January - -	—	51,000	51,000
5	" " - -	15,645	105,350	120,995
4½	" " - -	—	225,000	225,000
4	" " - -	—	598,280	598,280
3½	" " - -	—	105,000	105,000
	Total - -	15,645	1,084,630	1,100,275
6	October and April - -	16,566	—	16,566
4	" " - -	37,619	400,000	437,619
	Total - -	54,185	400,000	454,185
		69,830	1,484,630	1,554,460
	Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.	1,460	7,735	9,195
	Grand Total - -	71,290	1,492,365	1,563,655

Interest on loans for different works.

98. The annual inertest payable on the public debt, as it existed at the end of the financial year 1888–9, was equivalent to an average rate of about 4*l.* 3*s.* per 100*l.*, the rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works in most cases varying from 4 to 4½ per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1866; and the 5, 4½, 4, and 3½ per cent. loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have gradually brought down the rate of interest, so that at the end of 1888–9 it averaged only about 4*l.* 3*s.* per cent. as just stated.

Interest on debt.

99. The following table contains a statement of the amount of interest payable annually on the public debts of various countries, also the proportion that such interest bears to the total expendi-

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ture of each country. The countries are arranged in order according to the proportion referred to :—

Interest on Public Debt and Proportion thereof to Total Expenditure in Various Countries.

Countries.	Annual Interest on Public Debt.	
	Amount (000's omitted).	Proportion of Total Expenditure.
	£	Per cent.
Portugal	4,720,	55
Roumania	2,360,	48
New Zealand	1,570,	40
Greece	1,480,	40
Austria	11,280,	38
Hungary	10,640,	38
France	53,480,	35
Spain	10,960,	32
Russia	27,800,	31
Italy	12,600,	31
Belgium	3,840,	31
United Kingdom	27,000,	30
Queensland	1,106,	30
South Australia	718,	30
Tasmania	185,	26
Holland	2,640,	24
New South Wales	1,746,	20
Victoria	1,385,	19
Denmark	560,	19
Western Australia	64,	17
Sweden	800,	16
Prussia	8,480,	13
Norway	280,	11
Germany	4,360,	9
Switzerland	80,	3

Relation of debt to expenditure in Victoria and other countries.

100. According to the table the only countries in the world in which the relation of the public debt to the public expenditure is smaller than in Victoria are Western Australia, Sweden, Prussia, Norway, Germany, and Switzerland. So far as the German Empire is concerned, the result might be different if the indebtedness of the several German States was taken into account. New Zealand, it will be observed, stands near the head of the list, having only two countries above it, and all the other Australasian Colonies, except Western Australia, occupy a higher and consequently worse position than Victoria.

Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

101. The aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was nearly 125 millions at the end of 1888, being 7 millions more than in 1887 ; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, was nearly 168 millions sterling, being over 7½ millions more than in 1887. The following are the exact figures for 1888, also the proportion of

indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits:—

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1888.

	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	124,991,381	42 14 9	5·48
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - -	167,816,401	45 12 6	6·09

102. During the year 1888 the public debt of Australasia, taken as a whole, increased by 7½ millions, or nearly 5 per cent., but the amount per head of population increased by only 10*s.* During the 15 years ended with 1888 the public debt increased by 125 millions, or fourfold, whilst the proportion per head was much more than doubled. The debt also in the first 13 of those years increased in a much greater ratio than the public revenue, for whereas in 1873 it was equal to the income of the Colonies for only about three and a half years, in 1886 it was equal to their income for six and a half years; but since 1886 it has fallen in this respect, and it amounted to little more than six years' revenue in 1888. This is shown by the following figures:—

Increase of debt in Australasia in 15 years.

Increase of Public Debt of Australasia, 1873 *to* 1888.

Year.	Public Debt of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1873 - -	42,672,423	20 7 1	3·46
1886 - -	153,209,998	44 14 3	6·52
1887 - -	160,227,689	45 2 3	6·46
1888 - -	167,816,401	45 12 6	6·09
Increase 1873–88 -	125,143,978	25 5 5	2·63
„ 1888 -	7,588,712	0 10 3	-·37

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Marriages, 1889.

103. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1889 numbered 9,194, as against 8,946 in the previous year. The excess in favour of 1889 was thus 248.

Marriages, 1889 and former years.

104. More marriages were returned in 1889 than in any previous year. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made, which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884, they exceeded 7,000; in 1888 they nearly realised 9,000, and in 1889 they exceeded that number by 200.

Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

105. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1889, except Western Australia, for which Colony it is given for the last 18 of those years:—

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1889.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1866	6·76	8·26	11·61	8·12	—	5·93	10·32
1867	6·97	7·84	9·54	8·20	—	6·10	9·69
1868	7·08	8·23	8·33	7·37	—	6·57	9·35
1869	6·89	8·04	8·31	6·78	—	6·44	8·32
1870	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1871	6·37	7·78	8·06	6·77	—	5·90	7·15
1872	6·36	7·46	8·70	7·20	5·56	6·17	6·85
1873	6·50	8·05	9·66	8·00	6·25	6·36	7·91
1874	6·33	7·70	8·62	8·00	6·96	6·83	8·87
1875	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1876	6·21	7·66	7·57	8·49	7·07	7·13	8·25
1877	6·31	7·94	7·57	8·66	6·38	7·79	7·63
1878	6·20	8·08	6·98	9·47	6·50	7·96	8·03
1879	5·98	7·80	7·49	8·81	7·57	7·23	7·60
1880	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1881	6·79	8·27	7·71	8·33	6·60	7·30	6·65
1882	7·09	8·74	8·56	8·73	7·07	8·03	7·07
1883	7·43	8·88	8·93	8·49	6·95	9·01	6·82
1884	7·73	8·49	8·91	8·28	7·11	7·81	6·88
1885	7·72	8·18	9·20	7·82	7·51	7·97	6·73
1886	7·84	7·97	8·38	6·31	7·99	7·27	5·99
1887	7·62	7·42	8·21	6·31	7·58	6·71	5·97
1888	8·42	7·37	8·63	6·56	7·18	6·59	5·97
1889	8·33	6·76	7·87	6·47	6·99	6·50	5·99
Means	6·94	7·97	8·62	7·85	7·00	6·98	7·67

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Reasons for marriage rates being higher in other Colonies than in Victoria.

106. It will be observed that the mean marriage rate is slightly lower in Victoria than in Western Australia and Tasmania, and much lower than in the other Colonies, and as during the whole period over which the calculations extend, Victoria has certainly been second to none of the other Colonies in point of wealth and prosperity, this may create surprise in the minds of those who fail to realise the fact that marriage rates, calculated upon the total population, do not afford an indication of the amount of prosperity in a community so much as of the proportion which single men at marriageable ages bear to the population as a whole. In civilised countries the age at which four-fifths of the males who marry enter the marriage state is between 20 and 35 years. It naturally follows, therefore, that on the number of single males at such ages the number of marriages mainly depends. Prior to the taking of the last census it was mentioned as probable that there had been a falling-off in the male population of Victoria at those ages; and, as was anticipated, the census disclosed the fact that Victoria had, in proportion to the total population, a smaller number of males between 20 and 40 than any of the other Colonies. The explanation of the higher proportion in the other Colonies of males at the period named is to be found mainly in the fact that they—especially New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand—had, for many years, introduced large numbers of adults at the cost of the State, and, as is nearly always the case when immigration is subsidised, these were accompanied or followed by a steady stream of unassisted immigrants. Besides, not one of the neighbouring Colonies was subjected, in the early days of its history, to so large an influx of adult male immigrants unaccompanied by persons at younger ages, followed by a cessation of immigration, as was the case in Victoria at and since the time of the early gold discoveries. As the young population has grown to a marriageable age, however, this Colony has assumed a normal condition; and this circumstance has for several years past brought about a marked improvement in the marriage rate, so much so, that in this respect Victoria was in 1889 in advance of all the neighbouring Colonies.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination.

107. The age of both bridegroom and bride was specified in the case of all but 50 of the 9,194 marriages which took place in 1889. In 41 of the defective entries the age of neither party was given; in six cases the age of the husband was stated, but not that of the wife; and in three instances the age of the wife was given, but not that of the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides in Combination, 1889.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.																				Total Bride-grooms.
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.	75 to 80.	Unspecified.	
18 to 19 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
19 to 20 „	—	2	2	8	11	7	5	23	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62
20 to 21 „	—	3	2	6	19	24	20	41	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	124
21 to 25 „	1	3	25	91	185	227	296	1,564	332	37	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2,772
25 to 30 „	—	—	10	49	118	183	253	1,576	1,111	181	25	9	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	3,523
30 to 35 „	—	—	5	9	35	50	71	467	522	234	47	12	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,457
35 to 40 „	—	—	1	3	1	8	12	109	164	94	55	13	11	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	475
30 to 45 „	—	—	—	—	4	2	2	45	56	64	38	23	13	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	252
45 to 50 „	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	18	37	39	34	19	19	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	177
50 to 55 „	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	7	11	22	18	26	16	10	3	1	1	—	—	—	118
55 to 60 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	9	12	17	16	8	7	3	3	—	—	—	86
60 to 65 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	6	8	10	15	3	3	—	—	—	—	53
65 to 70 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	2	3	5	5	4	—	—	—	25
70 to 75 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	12
75 to 80 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	6
80 to 85 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	44
Total Brides	1	8	45	167	378	503	662	3,862	2,253	687	247	132	98	53	23	15	11	1	1	47	9,194

NOTE.—This table may be read thus:—Three men between 21 and 25 married girls between 15 and 16; eight women between 35 and 40 married men between 21 and 25, &c.

108. An examination of the 9,144 cases in which the ages of both parties are specified will show that in 3,060 instances, or 33 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 812 instances, or 9 per cent. of the whole, the wife was older than the husband; and in 5,272 instances, or 58 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

109. Some striking inequalities of age amongst the parties married appear in several of the columns, as, for instance, a man between 65 and 70, and a man between 70 and 75, married women between 21 and 25; three men between 50 and 55 married girls under 21; and three men between 45 and 50 married girls between 17 and 20. On the other hand, four women between 21 and 25 married youths of 18; a woman between 30 and 35 married a youth of 20; a woman between 55 and 60 married a man between 25 and 30; a woman between 65 and 70 married a man between 40 and 45, &c.

Inequalities of age.

110. It will be noticed that six youths, aged 18, took upon themselves the cares and responsibilities of matrimony, four of their wives, however, being at least three years older than their husbands. On the other hand, it will be remarked that eight men who had passed the age of 75—two of whom had passed the age of 80—entered the marriage state, the bride of one being of the same mature age as her husband, whilst the brides of the others were generally much younger; the youngest, however, not being less than 40.

Extreme ages of marriage.

111. The births registered in Victoria during 1889 numbered 36,359 as against 34,503, in 1888. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 1,856.

Births, 1889.

112. During the 20 years ended with 1883 the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the five subsequent years, the number of births in 1889 being the highest ever recorded. The increase between 1889 and 1888 was 1,856, as compared with 1,460 between 1888 and 1887.

Births in 1889, and former years.

113. Returns of the births in all the Australasian Colonies are available to the end of 1889, and from these and the mean populations of the respective Colonies during each year the birth rates have been calculated in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne. The following table gives the birth rates of the different Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1889, or as many years between those periods as the figures are available for:—

Birth rates in Australasian Colonies.

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Birth Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1889.

Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	42·40	43·21	43·65	43·90	—	32·56	41·12
1866 -	39·76	40·45	44·86	42·38	—	29·15	42·89
1867 -	39·75	41·94	45·66	41·87	—	30·34	42·18
1868 -	41·08	40·72	43·03	41·51	—	30·03	42·14
1869 -	37·89	40·74	42·83	39·03	—	28·27	41·90
1870 -	38·07	40·09	43·51	38·48	—	30·18	42·32
1871 -	37·15	39·63	43·25	38·34	—	30·16	40·64
1872 -	36·33	38·46	40·70	37·60	32·42	29·44	39·50
1873 -	36·71	39·38	40·82	36·42	31·43	29·43	39·00
1874 -	34·46	39·30	41·11	38·22	33·71	29·72	40·27
1875 -	33·94	38·53	38·90	35·70	28·72	29·88	40·23
1876 -	33·61	38·56	37·48	37·71	33·98	30·11	41·73
1877 -	32·17	37·92	36·75	37·36	33·07	30·21	41·28
1878 -	32·36	38·50	35·77	38·23	31·11	32·27	42·14
1879 -	32·18	38·99	36·74	38·96	34·38	32·05	40·32
1880 -	30·75	38·80	36·92	38·94	32·35	32·91	40·78
1881 -	31·24	38·13	37·19	38·66	33·67	33·40	37·95
1882 -	30·05	37·37	35·85	37·40	35·84	33·50	37·32
1883 -	30·23	37·49	36·92	37·37	33·87	34·25	36·28
1884 -	30·89	38·54	36·23	38·38	33·84	35·66	36·15
1885 -	31·37	37·64	37·80	38·47	35·22	35·08	34·78
1886 -	31·23	37·03	37·84	35·70	39·43	34·15	33·15
1887 -	32·40	36·42	38·09	34·56	37·34	33·87	32·09
1888 -	32·49	36·20	37·77	33·06	35·88	33·10	31·22
1889 -	32·92	33·73	36·27	32·37	37.14	31·97	30·07
Means -	34·45	38·71	39·44	38·02	34·08	31·67	38·70

Low birth-rates in Australasian Colonies in 1889.

114. In 1889 the birth rate was remarkably low in most of the Colonies, and was below the average in all except Western Australia and Tasmania. Even in Tasmania it was lower than in any year since 1877. In New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand the rate was absolutely the lowest recorded during the whole period of 25 years; whilst in Queensland it was about the same as in 1884, but lower than in any other year shown in the table except 1882 and 1878. In Victoria the rate, although still below the average, was higher than in any year since 1876, as has been already stated. In Western Australia the birth rate was about equal to that in 1887, but was much higher than in any previous year except 1886.

Deaths, 1889.

115. The deaths registered in 1889 numbered 19,392, as against 16,287 in 1888. The increase in the year under notice was thus 3,105, or 19 per cent.

Deaths, 1889, and former years.

116. In 1889, for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, whereas in 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000; in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Natural increase of population.

117. In 1889 the population of Victoria increased at the rate of 1·56 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 45 years. This proportion, however, was the lowest, with one exception, during the last 10 years, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1880 *to* 1889.

	Per cent.
1880	1·70
1881	1·73
1882	1·49
1883	1·61
1884	1·66
1885	1·65
1886	1·63
1887	1·70
1888	1·76
1889	1·56
Mean	1·65

Death rates in town and country, 1889.

118. In every country the death rate is higher in towns than it is in the extra-urban districts. This circumstance, although no doubt partly attributable to the superior healthfulness and immunity from contagion prevailing in the latter, is also to a great extent due to the fact that hospitals and charitable institutions, which are frequented by patients from the country as well as by town residents, are generally situated in the towns; and further, that, outside of charitable institutions, many persons die who have come from the country on the approach of serious illness for the sake of the superior nursing and medical attendance to be obtained in town. In 1889 the death rate was somewhat higher in Melbourne and suburbs than in the country towns, whilst in the former it was nearly two and a third times as high, and in the

latter more than twice as high as in the country districts. The following are the figures for that year :—

Deaths in Urban and Country Districts, 1889.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Deaths, 1889.	
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs (Greater Melbourne).	445,220	10,412	23·39
Extra-metropolitan towns -	196,400	4,303	21·91
Country districts - -	462,680	4,677	10·11
Total - -	1,104,300	19,392	17·56

Royal Mint.

119. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872, and was opened to the public on the 12th June of that year. The premises occupy 2 acres 1 rood 26 perches of land, valued in October 1880 at 8,500*l.*, but now probably worth ten times that amount; the original cost of the buildings, machinery, fittings, and furniture was 68,350*l.*

Gold received at Mint.

120. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1889, 11¼ million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was 45 millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold received in each year :—

Gold Received at the Melbourne Mint, 1872 *to* 1889.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872 - - -	190,738	764,917
1873 - - - -	221,870	887,127
1874 - - - -	335,318	1,349,102
1875 - - - -	489,732	1,947,713
1876 - - - -	543,199	2,149,481
1877 - - - -	378,310	1,491,819
1878 - - - -	569,932	2,267,431
1879 - - - -	656,556	2,637,738
1880 - - - -	758,721	3,061,820
1881 - - - -	692,213	2,792,985
1882 - - - -	818,905	3,310,971
1883 - - - -	785,716	3,158,420
1884 - - - -	945,429	3,802,229
1885 - - - -	836,169	3,350,737
1886 - - - -	756,249	3,028,374
1887 - - - -	769,897	3,074,223
1888 - - - -	757,548	3,022,384
1889 - - - -	761,616	3,029,731
Total - -	11,268,118	45,127,202

Gold received in standard ounces.

121. A simple calculation, based upon the total value, as shown in the lowest line of the last column of the table, will show that the gold received amounted to 11,589,650 ounces standard, valued at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz., or 321,532 ounces more than the actual weight of gold received at the Mint.

Gold received, 1889.

122. It will be observed that the gold received at the Mint in 1889 exceeded by 4,068 ounces the quantity in 1888, but was less than in any other year since 1881 except 1886.

Mint charges.

123. Gold deposited at the Mint is subject to a charge of 1½*d.* per oz. on the gross weight before melting if the deposit contains 1,000 ounces of standard gold or over; and of 2*d.* per oz. if the deposit contains less than 1,000 ounces, the minimum charge on any deposit being 4*s.*

Mint allowances.

124. Any silver in a deposit in excess of 4 per cent. of the weight of the deposit after melting is allowed for at a rate per oz. to be fixed from time to time by the Deputy Master. A reduction of a sixth of the charge is made on deposits containing more than 24 ounces of unrefinable gold, or gold containing silver in less proportion than 4½ per cent., and base metal in less proportion than 2 per cent. of the weight of the deposit after melting.

Number of banks.

125. During 1889 there were 16 banks in Victoria, 13 of which were banks of issue, possessing therein 485 branches or agencies. There were 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1884 and 1879.

Liabilities, assets, &c. of banks.

126. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital, and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the same three years, was as follows:—

Financial Position of Banks, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

——	1879.	1884.	1889.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,090,760	1,391,644	1,657,082
Bills in circulation	53,957	53,076	115,532
Balances due to other banks	247,343	324,572	269,220
Deposits not bearing interest	4,187,452	6,654,296	10,114,154
„ bearing interest	12,238,713	21,762,748	28,654,782
Total	17,818,225	30,186,336	40,810,770
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	3,154,566	4,666.586	6,230,624
Gold and silver in bullion and bars	320,779	348,163	302,413
Landed property	847,389	1,037,844	1,679,255
Notes and bills of other banks	113,373	135,959	307,710
Balances due from other banks	185,986	342,345	288,539
Debts due to the banks	20,717,750	29,487,969	48,817,112
Total	25,339,843	36,018,866	57,625,653

——	1879.	1884.	1889.
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.	£	£	£
Capital stock paid up - - -	9,026,250	8,663,184	13,389,662
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	10·698 per cent.	12·321 per cent.	11·443 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared -	482,800	533,690	766,095
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,698,097	3,553,358	6,141,628

Liabilities, assets, &c. compared at three periods.

127. It will be observed that the shareholders' capital (including reserves) amounted in 1889 to over 19½ millions, having increased by 7,800,000*l.*, or by about two thirds since 1879. The total liabilities show an increase of 23 millions, or 129 per cent., since 1879, or of nearly 10⅔ millions, or 35 per cent., since 1884; whilst the total assets increased by 32⅓ millions, or 127 per cent., since 1879, and by 21½ millions, or 60 per cent., since 1884. This expansion in banking business has been greater than that of the population, which during the 10 years ended with 1889 increased by only 33 per cent. Of the liabilities, the notes and bills in circulation have increased 55 per cent. since 1879 and 23 per cent. since 1884, and this notwithstanding the former have been restricted by a Government tax and other charges, which are said to average as much as 3½ per cent., whilst the deposits, which now compose 95 per cent. of the total liabilities, have increased by over 22 millions in the last 10 and by over 10 millions in the last five years, and now amount to over 38¾ millions. Under the head of assets it will be noticed that in 1889 the banks had over 6½ millions sterling in coin and bullion, which was nearly one million more than in 1888, but 300,000*l.* less than in 1887, and was 1½ million more than in 1884, and nearly twice as much as in 1879; the landed property also represented over 1⅔ million sterling, showing an increase of over 640,000*l.* since 1884, or of 830,000*l.* since 1879; but the most important item of all, the advances (debts due to the banks), which embrace 85 per cent. of the total assets, shows a marked advance in recent years, for since 1879 they have increased by nearly 28 millions, and since 1884 by 19½ millions; and thus in 1889 they amounted to close on 49 millions sterling. It will be observed that in 1889 the advances exceeded the deposits by a little over 10 millions, as against an excess of only one million in 1884 and 4⅓ millions in 1879. The average rate of the last dividend in 1889 (11*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* per 100*l.*) was not so high as at the middle period, but higher than at the first period. This dividend, it may be remarked, varied in different banks in 1889 from 6 to 17½ per cent.

The following results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods:—

The liabilities amounted to -	70·32	per cent.	of the assets	in 1879.
	83·81	„	„	1884.
	70·82	„	„	1889.

Coin and bullion formed - -	13·72	per cent. of the assets in	1879.
	13·92	„ „	1884.
	11·34	„ „	1889.
The paid-up capital was equal to -	35·62	per cent. of the assets in	1879.
	24·05	„ „	1884.
	23·24	„ „	1889.
	50·66	per cent. of the liabilities in	1879.
	28·70	„ „	1884.
	32·81	„ „	1889.
Of the moneys deposited - -	74·51	per cent. bore interest in	1879.
	76·58	„ „	1884.
	73·91	„ „	1889.

128. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office savings banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the last dates of balancing in 1889, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:— Savings banks.

Savings Banks, 1889.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office savings banks -	314	98,134	1,790,756	18 5 0
General savings banks -	16	162,933	3,230,766	19 16 7
Tota - -	330	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8

129. In the 18 years, 1872 to 1889, the number of depositors in savings banks has increased nearly fourfold. For several years prior to 1880 the amount standing to the credit of the depositors had been tolerably uniform, but since then a steady increase has taken place, and by 1889 it had risen to over five millions sterling, or 352,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and over three times the amount in 1880, nine years previously. The average amount to each depositor was highest in 1872 and lowest in 1887, the proportion of the latter being 1*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* less than in the year under review. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and the amount remaining on deposit during the period referred to:— Savings banks, 1872 to 1889.

Savings Banks, 1872 *to* 1889.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
		Total.	Average to each Depositor.
		£	£ s. d.
1872 - -	52,749	1,405,738	26 13 0
1873 - -	58,547	1,498,618	25 11 11
1874 - -	64,014	1,617,301	25 5 3
1875 - -	65,837	1,469,849	22 6 6
1876 - -	69,027	1,507,235	21 16 9
1877 - -	73,245	1,575,305	21 10 2
1878 - -	76,696	1,510,273	19 13 7
1879 - -	82,941	1,520,296	18 6 7
1880 - -	92,115	1,661,409	18 0 9
1881 - -	107,282	2,569,438	23 19 0
1882 - -	122,584	3,121,246	25 9 3
1883 - -	136,087	2,818,122	20 14 2
1884 - -	152,342	2,981,083	19 11 4
1885 - -	170,014	3,337,018	19 12 7
1886 - -	189,359	3,589,916	18 19 2
1887 - -	206,596	3,696,699	17 17 10
1888 - -	237,433	4,669,541	19 13 4
1889 - -	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8

Rate of interest in savings banks.

130. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Wealth of the population.

131. The property left by deceased persons affords an indirect means of ascertaining approximately the wealth of the population, for it may be supposed that the average amount left by each person dying is equivalent to the average amount possessed by each person living. The result of such a calculation for three periods of five years and one period of three years is as follows :—

Wealth of the Population, 1872 *to* 1889.

Years.	Property of Deceased Persons sworn under	Total Number of Deaths.	Average Amount left by each Person dying.	Average Number of Persons living.	Total Wealth of the Population.
	£		£		£
1872–1876	11,699,757	63,402	185	776,052	143,569,620
1877–1881	13,732,848	61,552	223	836,677	186,578,971
1882–1886	21,175,159	69,461	305	936,157	285,527,885
1887–1889	23,480,210	51,684	454	1,062,016	482,155,264

Total wealth and wealth per head.

132. The national wealth is shown in the last column. It will be noticed that this amounted to nearly 144 millions sterling, or 185*l.* per head, in the five years 1872 to 1876; to nearly 187 millions sterling, or 223*l.* per head, in the five years 1877 to 1881; to nearly 286 millions sterling, or 305*l.* per head, in the five years 1882 to 1886; and to 482 millions sterling, or 454*l.* per head in the three years ended with 1889. It should, however, be mentioned that several large estates have been entered for probate in the last three years, and it is possible that this may partly account for the very large increase shown by the figures for the latest period.

Public wealth not estimated.

133. It should be explained that the figures given represent only the property possessed by private individuals, no estimate being made of the value of Crown lands, Government or municipal buildings, churches, hospitals, libraries, museums, mechanics' institutes, State schools, forts, artillery, lighthouses, war vessels, railways, telegraphs, &c.; also that the figures no doubt understate the truth, as a considerable amount of property is taken over by relatives without any declaration of value, or issue of probate or letters of administration, and that, in order to reduce as much as possible the amount to be paid as succession duty, the properties are frequently declared at less than their full value.

Wealth as compared with indebtedness.

134. In the middle of 1889 the national debt amounted to 37,627,382*l.*, equal to little more than 10 per cent. of the value of property as above estimated; but it must not be forgotten that, as a set-off to the debt, there is public property of immense value which is not included in the above estimate, and that the amount which could be realised by the sale of the State railways alone, the original cost of which was about 33 millions, would probably be amply sufficient to extinguish the whole debt.

Wealth in Victoria and New South Wales.

135. During the five years ended with 1888, according to the amounts left by persons dying in the two Colonies, the private wealth of the people of Victoria exceeded that of the people of New South Wales by 38 millions sterling. The amount per head was 348*l.* in the former and 314*l.* in the latter Colony, the excess being thus 34*l.* in favour of Victoria:—

Wealth of the Population in Victoria and New South Wales during the Five Years ended with 1888.

Colony.	Property of deceased Persons sworn under	Total Number of Deaths.	Average Amount left by each Person dying.	Average Number of Persons living.	Total Wealth of the Population.
	£		£		£
Victoria - -	26,171,991	75,113	348	992,279	345,313,092
New South Wales -	22,621,703	71,945	314	978,587	307,276,318
Victoria in excess of New South Wales.	3,550,288	3,168	34	13,692	38,036,774

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Arrests, 1888 and 1889.

136. The persons who were taken in charge by the Victorian police in 1889 numbered 37,321, as against 37,309 in 1888; the figures for the two years being thus almost identical.

Arrests, 1879, 1884, and 1889.

The arrests in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia, were as follow:—

Persons arrested, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Number of Persons.	1879.	1884.	1889.
Taken into custody - - -	24,625	27,503	37,321
Discharged by magistrates - -	7,227	8,900	13,000
Summarily convicted or held to bail -	16,770	17,908	23,298
Committed for trial - - -	628	695	1,023

Arrests, proportion to population.

137. At the last period, it will be observed, arrests were much more numerous than at either of the two previous periods. This is also the case if the numbers of the population be taken into account. The estimated average population in 1879 was 834,030; in 1884, 933,894; and in 1889, 1,104,300. The arrests were, therefore, in the proportion of 1 to every 34 persons living at the first and second periods, and 1 to every 30 persons living at the third period.

Causes of arrest.

138. A condensed statement of the offences for which arrests were made in the same three years, together with the numbers arrested for each offence, will be found in the following table:—

Causes of Arrest, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Offence.	1879.	1884.	1889.
Murder and attempt at murder - - -	15	23	34
Manslaughter - - - - -	14	16	8
Shooting at or wounding with intent to do bodily harm - - - - - -	46	71	70
Assault - - - - -	1,682	1,809	2,141
Rape and indecent assault on females - -	69	70	74
Unnatural offence and assault with intent to commit	8	17	10
Minor offences against the person - - -	140	93	134
Robbery with violence, burglary, &c. - -	203	205	409
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c. - -	154	130	163
Other offences against property - - -	3,508	3,090	4,097
Forgery and offences against the currency - -	100	74	141
Drunkenness - - - - - -	10,861	12,938	18,068
Other offences against good order - - -	6,041	7,330	10,139
Offences relating to carrying out laws - -	420	228	216
Smuggling and other offences against the revenue -	129	80	167
Offences against public welfare - - -	1,244	1,329	1,450
Total - - - - -	24,625	27,503	37,321

Offences at last period.

139. The causes in respect to which more arrests were made at the last period than at either of the former ones were murder and attempts to murder, assaults, rape and indecent assaults on females, robbery with violence or burglary, horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c., miscellaneous offences against property, forgery, drunkenness, and other offences against good order; smuggling and other offences against the revenue and offences against public welfare. But for manslaughter and offences relating to carrying out laws, there were fewer arrests at the last than at either of the former periods, and for minor offences against the person than at the first period. The most marked increases in 1889, as compared with previous periods, have occurred in the arrests for robbery and burglary, murder, miscellaneous offences against property, and drunkenness, and other offences against good order—most especially the first and last-named offences.

Drunkenness.

140. The number of arrests for drunkenness affords ample evidence that the efforts of those who are seeking to suppress or mitigate the evil are not uncalled for. In many cases, no doubt, the same individual was arrested over and over again; but supposing each arrest had represented a distinct individual, there would have been taken into custody for drunkenness:—

In	1874	one	person	in every	71 living in Victoria.
„	1875	„	„	68	„ „
„	1876	„	„	69	„ „
„	1877	„	„	65	„ „
„	1878	„	„	69	„ „
„	1879	„	„	77	„ „
„	1880	„	„	85	„ „
„	1881	„	„	79	„ „
„	1882	„	„	76	„ „
„	1883	„	„	74	„ „
„	1884	„	„	73	„ „
„	1885	„	„	72	„ „
„	1886	„	„	68	„ „
„	1887	„	„	65	„ „
„	1888	„	„	57	„ „
„	1889	„	„	61	„ „

Increase of drunkenness.

141. It will be observed that in 1879, 1880, and 1881, embracing the year in which the Colony was in a depressed condition, as already stated, and the two following years, drunkenness was less rife than at any preceding or subsequent period. Since 1880, however, as the Colony became more prosperous, arrests for drunkenness, in proportion to the population, have been steadily increasing, and on this basis were a third more numerous in 1888 than in 1880; but in the following year, 1889, which was one in which there was a certain amount of depression, they again decreased, but were still higher than in any of the years prior to 1888.

Minor offences.

142. Drunkenness, "other offences against property," "other offences against good order," and "offences against public welfare," although they may, and probably do—especially the first-named—lead to more serious offences, may be considered as being in themselves, comparatively speaking, minor offences, hardly amounting to crimes. Arrests for these numbered 21,654 in 1879, 24,687 in 1884, and 33,754 in 1889; and to the whole number of arrests were in the proportion of 88 per cent. at the first period, and 90 per cent. at the two later periods. Thus only 12 per cent. of the arrests at the first period and 10 per cent. at the middle and last periods were for crimes in the strict sense of the word.

Smuggling and other offences against revenue.

143. It is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the inducement which high import duties might be supposed to offer to smugglers, offences against the revenue have never led to many arrests in Victoria. Only 167 persons were taken into custody for such offences in 1889, which, however, is larger than the number in 1884 or in 1879.

Executions.

144. Three criminals, being natives of Victoria, England, and the Philippine Islands, respectively, two of whom claimed to be members of the Church of England and one of the Roman Catholic Church, were executed in 1889, for murder. Since the first settlement of Port Phillip, 145 criminals have been executed within the Colony, of whom only one was a female. No execution took place in 1887 or in 1882, 1878, 1874, 1850, 1849, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, or any year prior to 1842, but one or more executions took place in all the other years. The following table shows the birthplaces of the persons executed, the religions they professed, and the crimes they expiated on the scaffold:—

Criminals Executed, 1842 *to* 1889.

Birthplace, Religion, and Offence.	Number.
Total number executed	145
Birthplace—Victoria	5
" Other Australian Colonies	6
" England	60
" Wales	2
" Ireland	41
" Scotland	8
" Belgium	1
" France	1
" Switzerland	1
" Germany	1
" Sweden	1
" Sicily	1
" United States of America	5
" West Indies	2
" Philippine Islands	1
" China	8
" At sea	1

Birthplace, Religion, and Offence.	Number.
Religion—Church of England	34
„ Presbyterian	6
„ Wesleyan	8
„ Baptist	1
„ Lutheran	2
„ Protestant undefined	30
„ Roman Catholic	53
„ Buddhist, Confucian, &c.	6
„ No religion	5
Offence—Murder	109
„ Attempt to murder	17
„ Rape	9
„ Unnatural offence on a child	1
„ Robbery with violence	9

Imports, exports, and trade.

145. In 1889 the total declared value of the Victorian imports was 24,402,760*l.* and that of the exports 12,734,734*l.*, the excess of imports over exports was thus 11,668,026*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 37,137,494*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

146. The value of imports was higher in 1889 than in 1888 by 430,626*l.*, or by not quite 2 per cent., but the value of exports was lower than in that year by 1,119,029*l.*, or by 8 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus lower than in the previous year by 688,403*l.*

Imports and exports, latest and former years.

147. The imports in 1889, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any other year of the Colony's history; the exports, however, according to the same standard, were exceeded in all but five of the previous 34 years.

Imports and exports per head.

148. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was 22*l.* 2*s.* and that of exports was 11*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The former was lower by 9*s.* 5*d.* and the latter by 1*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* than in the previous year.

External trade in Australia and Australasia.

149. In 1888 the imports of the Colonies on the Australian continent, taken as a whole, amounted to 57,704,317*l.*, or 20*l.* 3*s.* per head, and the exports to 48,791,255*l.*, or 17*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* per head. In the same year the imports of those Colonies, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to 57,331,310*l.*, or 19*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* per head, and the exports to 49,886,866*l.*, or 16*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* per head.

Exports of Victorian produce.

150. The following table gives the total value and value per head of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their

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proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 23 years :—

Exports of Victorian Produce, 1867 *to* 1889.

Year.	Exports of Articles Produced or Manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per Head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867 - -	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868 - -	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869 - -	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870 - -	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871 - -	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872 - -	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873 - -	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874 - -	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875 - -	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876 - -	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877 - -	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878 - -	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879 - -	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880 - -	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881 - -	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882 - -	12,570,788	14 2 5	77·63
1883 - -	13,292,294	14 11 9	81·06
1884 - -	13,155,484	14 1 9	81·96
1885 - -	12,452,245	12 19 10	80·06
1886 - -	9,054,687	9 3 5	76·77
1887 - -	8,502,979	8 6 9	74·91
1888 - -	10,356,633	9 15 0	74·76
1889 - -	9,776,670	8 17 1	76·77

Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

151. It will be seen that the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable falling off during the last four years as compared with previous ones. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but since then the local export trade has somewhat revived, although it is still considerably below the standard of the earlier years. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1889 than in the great majority of previous years.

152. The values of 66 of the principal articles imported in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Books	193,235	248,216	260,494
Stationery	69,339	95,915	121,861
Musical instruments	56,968	110,013	151,361
Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials	54,075	99,067	83,366
Cutlery	20,298	29,258	36,249
Machinery	86,264	249,925	448,370
Sewing machines	67,962	87,533	61,906
Tools and utensils	31,476	35,423	64,206
Building materials	46,715	111,328	295,869
Furniture and upholstery	36,161	73,719	149,738
Drugs and chemicals	62,237	96,694	103,050
Matches and vestas	38,367	34,073	48,242
Opium	68,806	52,294	39,986
Paints and colours	51,121	81,659	117,803
Carpeting and druggeting	43,214	79,685	124,951
Woollens and woollen piece goods	701,292	923,072	969,412
Silks	200,996	266,040	395,328
Cottons	534,124	946,305	952,262
Linen piece goods	35,228	44,825	39,076
Haberdashery	210,938	362,319	383,837
Apparel and slops	282,298	315,903	473,984
Boots and shoes	179,830	100,756	149,235
Gloves	70,140	95,672	138,804
Hats, caps, and bonnets	116,880	120,684	126,212
Hosiery	107,232	111,961	156,177
Bags and sacks (including wool packs)	181,269	270,772	112,014
Butter and cheese	8,488	1,665	8,571
Fish	121,436	159,338	198,773
Meats—fresh, preserved and salted	9,516	8,337	39,152
Fruit (including currants and raisins)	139,434	188,672	273,631
Flour and biscuit	3,734	18,774	7,341
Grain—wheat	17,029	9,194	49,028
„ oats	104,348	52,082	298,965

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Grain—other (including malt and rice)	459,169	94,423	226,241
Sugar and molasses	1,082,130	1,292,246	992,761
Beer, cider, and perry	193,498	218,294	346,507
Coffee	46,830	41,957	58,314
Hops	35,084	20,486	52,580
Spirits	386,526	433,203	500,417
Tea	513,271	667,800	596,385
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	177,792	217,309	370,724
Wine	91,600	102,042	158,770
Hides, skins, and pelts	55,352	164,265	151,847
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	138,657	191,969	173,249
Wool*	2,494,573	2,575,905	3,595,449
Paper (including paper bags)	179,505	253,420	361,626
Timber	318,187	733,766	1,390,036
Woodenware	34,420	50,004	77,352
Oil of all kinds	219,006	208,922	217,265
Coal	354,924	412,697	753,048
Earthenware, brownware, and chinaware	61,103	105,656	147,451
Glass and glassware	102,487	155,318	236,964
Gold (exclusive of specie)	983,048	718,817	502,818
Specie—gold	157,000	549,798	217,166
„ other	104,417	4,962	4,721
Jewellery	47,505	63,602	66,456
Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	357,729	664,945	1,002,840
Lead—ore, pig, pipe, sheet	11,901	19,061	40,311
Manufactures of metal	70,315	102,043	340,430
Tin	26,371	60,217	48,799
Nails and screws	31,692	49,439	55,155
Plated ware	18,302	25,180	74,944
Live stock	890,126	1,333,154	1,081,348
Fancy goods	33,609	94,658	88,241
Hardware and ironmongery	98,142	191,441	267,096
Oilmen's stores	15,649	17,680	30,065
Total	13,740,370	17,316,452	21,106,630
All other articles	1,295,168	1,885,181	3,296,130
Total imports	15,035,538	19,201,633	24,402,760

* Including the value of wool imported into Victoria across the Murray.

Exports of principal articles at three periods.

153. The exports of 50 of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years:—

Exports of Principal Articles, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Books	76,798	87,053	59,745
Stationery	43,652	49,525	29,145
Machinery	75,640	136,819	126,066
Woollens and woollen piece goods	101,910	91,358	77,943
Silks	16,670	29,459	47,648
Cottons	37,884	71,328	72,174
Haberdashery	68,396	78,358	37,460
Apparel and slops	247,717	311,617	154,467
Boots and shoes	128,217	57,467	39,402
Bags and sacks	58,560	64,102	69,101
Butter and cheese	59,714	145,545	46,409
Meats—fresh and preserved	70,721	118,812	20,410
„ salted (including hams and bacon)	29,119	48,099	10,812
Fruits (including currants and raisins)	32,115	18,833	75,085
Flour and biscuit	140,124	339,811	319,938
Grain—wheat	132,314	1,429,715	84,064
„ oats	12,172	15,833	2,758
„ other (including malt and rice)	88,218	88,136	22,880
Onions	7,433	38,710	35,308
Potatoes	59,895	148,929	57,612
Sugar and molasses	236,598	232,474	128,256
Coffee	28,577	19,329	15,926
Spirits	118,254	112,023	84,713
Tea	253,675	359,325	355,157
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	152,871	115,473	112,533
Wine	47,935	46,563	66,283
Bones and bone dust	7,991	13,331	11,596
Candles	13,859	13,055	6,251
Horns and hoofs	2,806	1,174	2,691
Hides	20,217	8,696	25,000
Skins and pelts	30,685	139,942	206,960
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	241,766	371,497	217,559
Soap	10,857	16,186	17,422
Tallow	150,867	256,686	149,429
Wool*	5,269,634	6,342,887	5,928,932

* Including wool from across the Murray, which is also included in the returns of imports *ante*.

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Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Bark - - - - - -	14,999	21,807	45,666
Hay, straw, and chaff - - - -	15,695	194,393	129,390
Timber - - - - - -	47,616	33,989	24,168
Oil of all kinds - - - - -	68,414	51,272	28,800
Gold (exclusive of specie) - - -	1,224,538	760,875	296,413
Specie—gold - - - - -	1,352,883	1,249,420	1,983,913
„ silver - - - - -	32,950	1,237	17,810
Antimony ore, regulus, &c. - - -	13,176	3,796	166
Copper ore, regulus, &c. - - - -	29,158	269	1,130
Iron, &c. - - - - - -	76,413	57,435	38,367
Manufactures of metals - - - -	50,510	47,969	31,486
Tin, tin ore, black sand - - - -	2,299	6,668	2,684
Live stock - - - - - -	321,296	762,988	538,973
Hardware and ironmongery - - -	69,750	45,944	35,325
Travellers' samples - - - -	72,390	77,502	64,006
Total - - - - -	11,470,948	14,789,966	11,919,178
All other articles - - - - -	983,222	1,260,499	815,556
Total exports - - -	12,454,170	16,050,465	12,734,734

Number of cultivators.

154. The total number of farm holdings visited in the year ended 1st March 1890 was 36,497, of which 35,528 were in shires, and 969 in cities, towns, or boroughs. In the previous year the number of farms visited was 35,727, the increase being thus 770.

Land under tillage.

155. The extent of land returned as under cultivation amounted to 2,627,262 acres, as against 2,564,742 acres in 1888–89. The increase shown by the figures was therefore 62,520 acres.

Area cultivated per head of population.

156. The average area returned as in cultivation to each person in the Colony was about 2⅓ acres in the year under review as against nearly 2½ acres five years previously, and 2 acres 10 years previously. The exact proportions at the three periods were as follow :—

Average Area cultivated to each Person in the Colony.

	Acres.
1879–80 - - - -	2·01
1884–85 - - - -	2·46
1889–90 - - - -	2·35

Land under principal crops.

157. The principal crops grown in Victoria are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. In 1889–90 the area under wheat was less by 38,500 acres than in 1888–89, also less

by 58,000 acres than in 1887–8, but was larger than in any previous year; the area under oats was larger by 39,000 acres, and that under barley larger by over 7,000 acres than in 1888–9, and both were also larger than in any previous year; the area under potatoes, although larger than in 1888–9 by 4,000 acres, was exceeded in 1887–8 and in 1886–7; that under hay was larger by 40,000 acres than that in 1888–9, and was also larger than in any other year; the area returned under green forage was smaller by 37,000 acres than that in 1888–9, and was also less than that returned in any previous year since 1871–2. The large falling off since 1886–7 is accounted for by the fact that in the last three years the collectors have been instructed not to visit holdings on which there was no other cultivated land than that laid down under permanent artificial grass, which is included under the head of green forage. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1889 *and* 1890.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1889 - - -	1,217,191	197,518	83,483	43,074	411,332	192,515
1890 - - -	1,178,735	236,496	90,724	47,139	451,546	155,596
Increase -	—	38,978	7,241	4,065	40,214	—
Decrease -	38,456	—	—	—	—	36,919

Produce of principal crop.

158. As was naturally to be expected from the break up of the drought which prevailed in 1888–9, a large increase occurred in 1889–90 in the gross yield of all the principal crops. Thus the yield of wheat and oats each increased by nearly 3,000,000 bushels, the yield of the latter being more than twice as large as in the previous year; the yield of hay was also more than doubled; whilst that of barley increased by 60 per cent., and that of potatoes by 20 per cent. The wheat crop in 1889–90, 11,500,000 bushels, was the fourth largest ever raised in the Colony; still it was 3,000,000 bushels below the crop produced in 1883–4. The gross yield of oats, barley, and hay were much larger in the year under review than in any previous one, but that of potatoes was exceeded in six other years.

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The following is a statement of the gross produce of each of the principal crops in 1888–9 and 1889–90 :—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1889 *and* 1890.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1889 - - -	8,647,709	2,803,800	1,131,427	131,149	308,117
1890 - - -	11,495,720	5,644,867	1,831,132	157,104	666,385
Increase -	2,848,011	2,841,067	699,705	25,955	358,268

Yield of principal crops, 1872 to 1890.

159. In the past season, over the Colony as a whole, the acreable yield of wheat and potatoes was below, but that of the other crops was above, the average; the yield per acre of wheat was exceeded in all but six of the 18 other years named in the following table; but that of oats was higher than in any of those years except four, and that of oats was higher than in any previous year :—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1872 *to* 1890.

Year ended March—	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1872 - - -	13·45	18·76	20·00	3·22	1·40
1873 - - -	16·51	19·55	20·86	3·45	1·32
1874 - - -	13·58	15·69	19·84	2·86	1·27
1875 - - -	14·57	18·46	21·01	3·53	1·32
1876 - - -	15·49	21·92	22·20	3·37	1·33
1877 - - -	13·15	19·91	21·18	3·31	1·22
1878 - - -	12·41	19·39	19·81	3·11	1·17
1879 - - -	8·76	17·60	18·24	2·71	1·21
1880 - - -	13·29	24·00	24·67	4·04	1·45
1881 - - -	9·95	17·62	15·57	2·81	1·20
1882 - - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	13·55	3·04	·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
Mean - -	11·65	20·93	19·84	3·45	1·23

Live stock, 1881 and 1890.

160. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the census of 1881, and since that time the figures have been brought on by estimates furnished by the municipal authorities. The following are the census numbers, and the numbers in March, 1890, as derived from the municipal estimates alluded to:—

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1890.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April 1881 (enumerated).	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
March 1890 (estimated).	329,335	368,047	1,026,162	1,394,209	10,882,231	249,673
Increase -	53,819	38,849	69,093	107,942	521,946	7,737

Goats, asses, and mules.

161. Besides the live stock returned at the census, as shown in the table, 68,426 goats, 135 asses, and 78 mules were then enumerated. No attempt has been made to bring these numbers on to any later period.

Estimates not quite reliable.

162. The estimates for 1890, as compared with the numbers returned at the census, show an increase in all kinds of stock. Too much reliance, however, must not be placed on any statement of the numbers of live stock, except such as is derived from the returns of a general census.

Stock per square mile.

163. Speaking roughly, there are now in Victoria 4 horses, 16 head of cattle, 126 sheep, and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 145 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square smile.

Manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria and New South Wales.

164. According to the official returns, the manufactories and works (including stone quarries) in Victoria exceed those in New South Wales by 309, and the hands employed are also more numerous by 13,275. The number of works and hands employed therein in the two Colonies are placed side by side in the following table:—

VICTORIA.

Manufactories, Works, &c., in Victoria and New South Wales, 1890.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
BOOKS AND STATIONERY.				
Manufacturing stationers, including rubber-stamp makers.	12	26	1,044	658
Printing and lithographic printing establishments, including paper bag and box makers.	161	180	4,219	3,78
Photo-lithographic works	1	2	19	29
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, &C.				
Organ builders	3	—	37	—
Pianoforte makers	4	—	14	—
Musical instrument and toy makers	—	—	—	—
CARVING, ENGRAVING, &C.				
Wood carving, turnery works	19	—	76	—
Die sinkers, engravers	5	7	66	36
PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS, &C.				
Philosophical and surgical instrument makers	12	10	111	61
ARMS, AMMUNITION, &C.				
Blasting powder, dynamite, and fuze makers	7	—	87	—
Shot manufacturers	2	—	5	—
MACHINES, TOOLS, AND IMPLEMENTS.				
Agricultural implement makers	72	22	1,006	187
Domestic implement manufactories	6	—	33	—
Engine and machine makers, iron and brass founders.	216	166	8,732	5,765
Sheet, galvanized iron, tin, lead, zinc, pewter, type works.	62	98	767	899
Nail manufacturers	3	—	23	—
Cutlery tool makers	10	—	60	—
Pattern makers		—	23	—
CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.				
Carriage lamp, &c. manufactories	3	—	20	—
Coach, waggon, perambulator builders	214	218	2,998	1,948
Saddle, saddle tree, whip makers	80	67	633	527

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
SHIPS AND BOATS.				
Ship, boat builders, block makers	9	35	41	714
Graving docks, patent slips, &c.	8	10	174	413
HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.				
Architectural modellers, &c.	18	8	120	64
Lime and cement works	36	18	358	177
Venetian blind makers	9	8	117	44
Enamelled mantelpiece makers	4	—	54	—
FURNITURE.				
Bedding manufacturers	28	15	331	191
Furniture, cabinet works	84	87	1,676	1,103
Picture frame makers	10	9	63	38
Gasalier factories	—	—	—	—
Earth closet makers	3	—	36	—
Iron safe makers	2	—	26	—
Looking glass makers	4	—	36	—
CHEMICALS.				
Chemical works	11	7*	188	96
Dye works	8	7	66	41
Ink, printing ink, blacking, blue, washing powder, baking powder manufactories.	12	8	247	64
Essential oil factories	11	—	70	—
Paint, varnish, japanning works	3	2	16	12
Salt works	7	—	60	—
TEXTILE FABRICS AND DRESS.				
Woollen mills	7	5	810	172
Boot factories	98	59	3,819	2,420
Clothing factories	90	30	5,068	2,745
Fur manufactories	8	2	57	12
Hat, cap factories	19	14	482	106
Oil skin, waterproof clothing makers	5	3	112	58
Umbrella, parasol makers	9	1	132	5
Hosiery manufacturers	3	—	78	—

* Including 1 poudrette and ammonia factory.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
FIBROUS MATERIALS.				
Rope, twine, mat, bag, sack makers	12	7	288	118
Sail, tent tarpaulin makers	9	16	95	98
ANIMAL FOOD.				
Meat, fish, curing, preserving works	24	13	295	355
Butter and cheese factories (steam)	39	74	163	503
„ „ „ (hand or other power).	*	160	*	836
VEGETABLE FOOD.				
Maizena, oatmeal, starch, macaroni makers, rice dressers, &c.	4	2	152	24
Biscuit manufactories	10	6	671	375
Confectionery works	15	21	381	497
Flour mills	107	80	807	583
Fruit preserving, jam, pickle, sauce, condiment, vinegar works.	18	9	406	347
DRINKS AND STIMULANTS.				
Aerated waters, liqueur, cordial works	160	144	1,183	1,099
Breweries	70	67†	1,252	820
Distilleries	6	2	93	13
Coffee, chocolate, mustard, spice works	12	6	127	154
Sugar refineries	3	1	260	230
Sugar (raw) works	—	40	—	2,19
Tobacco, cigars, snuff manufacturers	16	10	840	621
Malthouses	18	—	123	—
ANIMAL MATTERS.				
Boiling down, tallow melting, glue making works.	17	17	105	144
Bone mills, bone manure works	13	6	97	36
Brush, broom factories	4	4	30	16
Curled hair, flock manufactories	11	4	181	32
Portmanteau, trunk makers	8	2	37	12
Leather belting, morocco, fancy leather, catgut factories.	8	2	56	8
Soap, candle works	33	30	399	250
Tanneries, fellmongeries, woolwashing works	137	152	1,576	2,242

* In Victoria a large quantity of cheese and butter is made on dairy farms, which are not returned as factories. Some of these have steam engines, and use cream separators and other machinery. It was ascertained that in 1890 as many as 14,112 hands were employed in such establishments exclusively on dairy work.

† Including bottling works.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
VEGETABLE MATTERS.				
Bark mills	3	2	18	9
Basket makers	12	10	74	72
Broom (millet) factories	2	2	38	26
Chaff cutting, corn crushing works	212	100	940	446
Cooperage works	30	10	186	150
Fancy box, hat box manufactories	2	1	201	66
Paper manufactories	326	392	6,213	4,372
Saw mills, moulding, joinery, packing case, cork cutting works.	7	7	112	86
COAL AND LIGHTING.				
Electric light works	3	7	23	32
Gas, coke works	30	36	867	1,131
Kerosene, oil works	—	2	—	251
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS.				
Stone quarries, stone crushing, dressing works, asphalt, pavement works.	172	82	1,766	993
Brickyards, potteries	233	228	3,243	2,134
Glass works	9	7	256	108
Stone, marble—sawing, polishing, monumental works.	53	37	676	259
Artificial stone, asbestos, cement, tile, filter works.	4	—	22	—
WATER.				
Ice manufactories, refrigerating works	5	8	25	157
GOLD, SILVER, AND PRECIOUS STONES.				
Goldsmiths, jewellers, gold beaters, electro-platers, mother-of-pearl workers.	29	35	416	200
Mint	1	1	51	28
METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.				
Smelting, pyrites works	5	21	69	1,276
Wire working establishments	13	8	128	106
Other works	—	4	—	28
Total	3,308	2,999	59,181	45,906

VICTORIA.

Gold raised, 1888 and 1889.

165. The gold raised in Victoria in 1889 was 614,839 ozs. which is less than the quantity obtained in 1888 by 10,187 ozs., representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 40,700*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1888 *and* 1889.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
1888 - - -	625,026	2,500,104
1889 - - -	614,839	2,459,356
Decrease - -	10,187	40,742

Gold raised, 1851 to 1889.

166. Carrying on to the end of 1889 the calculations given in previous years, the following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery about the middle of 1851. The figures give an average per annum during the whole period of about 1,442,000 ozs., which is about two and a third times the quantity raised in 1889:—

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1889.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
Prior to 1889 - -	55,635,959	222,543,836
During 1889 - -	614,839	2,459,356
Total - -	56,250,798	225,003,192

167. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Description of Labour.	1879.	1884.	1889.
1.—Domestic Servants.			
Males.			
Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Butlers - - - "	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females.			
Cooks - - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Laundresses - - "	30*l.*	35*l.* to 52*l.*	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Housemaids - - "	25*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids - - "	25*l.* to 35*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants - "	30*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Girls - - - per week, with board and lodging	7*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*
2.—Hotel Servants.			
Males.			
Barmen - - - per week, with board and lodging	20*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Waiters - - - "	25*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Boots - - - "	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Ostlers - - - "	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Cooks - - - "	25*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females.			
Barmaids - - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Waitresses - - "	12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Housemaids - - per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks - - - "	50*l.* to 80*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*
3.—Farm Servants.			
Males.			
Ploughmen - - per week, and found	20*s.* to 21*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Farm labourers - - "	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Milkmen for dairies - "	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
3.—FARM SERVANTS—*cont.*				
Males—cont.				
Cheesemakers	per week, and found	—	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Reapers*	per acre, and found	7*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers*	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Threshers*	per bushel, and found	6*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Cooks	per annum, and found	50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females.				
Dairymaids	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Cooks	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
General servants	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Hop-pickers	per bushel	—	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers	per bag	—	6*d.*	6*d.*
Married couples (generally useful)	per annum, with board and lodging	60*l.* to 70*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.				
Males.				
Boundary riders	per annum, with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*
Shepherds	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stockmen	„	40*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*
Hutkeepers	„	26*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Labourers	per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Drovers	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Sheepwashers	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females.				
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	45*l.* to 55*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*
General servants	„	18*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples	per annum, with rations	50*l.* to 80*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.				
Printers—				
Compositors	per 1,000	1*s.*	1*s.* 1*d.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Machinists	per week	—	—	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers	„	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*

* Of late years the greater portion of the reaping, mowing, and threshing has been done by machinery.

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
6.—In Watches, Jewellery, and Precious Metals.				
Watchmakers	per week	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Manufacturing jewellers	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.*
Enamellers	„	6*l.* to 8*l.*	6*l.* to 8*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
7.—In Metals other than Gold and Silver.				
Blacksmiths	per day	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Farriers, firemen	per week	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*
„ floormen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	35*s.* to 40*s.*
Hammermen	per day	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Turners	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	12*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	9*s.* to 11*s.*	9*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Moulders	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*
Galvanizers	„	3*l.*	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.*
8.—In Carriages and Harness.				
Smiths	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Painters	per day	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Saddlers	„	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
9.—Workers in Ships and Boats.				
Sailors— Sailing vessels	per month, and found	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
Steamships	„	6*l.*	6*l.*	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day	13*s.*	12*s.* to 13*s.*	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour	1*s.*	1*s.*	1*s.*
10.—In Houses and Buildings.				
Masons	per day	10*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Bricklayers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Slaters	„	10*s.*	12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Carpenters	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„	9*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*

Description of Labour.	1879.	1884.	1889.
11.—IN FURNITURE, &c.			
Cabinetmakers - - per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Upholsterers - - „	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Polishers - - - „	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Coopers - - - per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—IN DRESS.			
Tailors - - - per hour	10*d.* to 1*s.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„ - - - per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
„ in factories - „	2*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Mantlemakers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Milliners—			
First class - - „	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Second class - „	35*s.*	35*s.*	1*l.* to 2*l.*
Dressmakers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 35*s.*	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Bootmakers - - riveting children's boots, per pair	6*d.*	6*d.*	6*d.*
„ - - riveting boys' boots, per pair	10*d.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„ - - riveting women's boots, per pair	1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
„ - - riveting men's boots, per pair	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*
„ - - making wellingtons to order	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.*
„ - - making elastics to orders	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*
„ Machinists - per week	15*s.* to 35*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s*
Hatters—			
Bodymakers - - per dozen	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*
Finishers - - „	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*	10*s.* to 24*s.*
Shapers - - „	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Crown sewers - - „	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Trimmers - - „	6*s.*	6*s.*	6*s.* to 9*s.*
Clothing Factories—			
Tailoresses - - per week	20*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* 6*d* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Pressers - - „	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Shirtmakers - - „	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists - - „	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen - „	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
13.—IN FOOD AND DRINK.			
Bakers—			
Foremen - - per week	3*l.*	3*l.*	3*l.*
Second hands - - „	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
13.—IN FOOD AND DRINK—*cont.*				
Butchers—Shopmen	per week	35*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Slaughtermen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	per week, with board	12*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Small-goods men	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*
Maltsters	per week	—	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—IN ANIMAL SUBSTANCES.				
Curriers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 50*s.*
15.—IN STONE, CLAY, &c.				
Brickmakers	per 1,000	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*
Navvies	per day	6*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Quarrymen	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
16.—IN MINES.				
General managers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Legal „	„	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*
Mining „	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* to 7*l.*
Engineers	„	2*l.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Blacksmiths	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carpenters	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 8*s.* to 3*l.* 12*s.*
Foremen of shift	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Miners	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	1*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*
Chinese	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	12*s.* to 36*s.*	12*s.* to 2*l.*

168. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows at the same three periods. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that Prices.

VICTORIA.

of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne:—

Prices in Melbourne, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.	1879.	1884.	1889.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.			
Wheat - - - per bushel	4*s*. 7*d*. to 6*s*. 1*d*.	3*s*. 7½*d*. to 4*s*. 3*d*.	3*s*. 6*d*. to 5*s*. 9*d*.
Barley - - - „	3*s*. 6*d*. to 7*s*. 6*d*.	3*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. 7*d*.	3*s*. 4*d*. to 5*s*. 10*d*.
Oats - - - „	2*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. 6*d*.	2*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*. 9*d*.	2*s*. 9*d*. to 4*s*. 7*d*.
Maize - - - „	2*s*. 10*d*. to 5*s*. 2*d*.	4*s*. 4*d*. to 5*s*.	3*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. 10*d*.
Bran - - - „	11½*d*. to 1*s*. 4*d*.	10½*d*. to 1*s*. 2*d*.	8½*d*. to 1*s*. 4*d*.
Hay - - - per ton	3*l*. to 6*l*. 15*s*.	3*l*. 10*s*. to 6*l*.	3*l*. to 8*l*.
Flour, first quality - „	9*l*. 17*s*. 6*d*. to 12*l*. 15*s*.	8*l*. to 10*l*.	10*l*. to 13*l*. 15*s*.
Bread - - - per 4 lb. loaf	6*d*. to 7*d*.	5*d*. to 6½*d*.	5*d*. to 7*d*.
GRAZING PRODUCE.			
Horses—			
Draught - - each	20*l*. to 45*l*.	21*l*. to 46*l*.	10*l*. to 43*l*.
Saddle and harness - „	5*l*. to 52*l*.	10*l*. to 28*l*.	6*l*. 10*s*. to 13*l*.
Cattle—			
Fat - - - „	4*l*. 10*s*. to 11*l*. 10*s*.	6*l*. to 19*l*.	4*l*. 10*s*. to 16*l*. 15*s*.
Milch cows - - „	5*l*. to 8*l*. 15*s*.	5*l*. to 10*l*.	3*l*. to 15*l*.
Sheep, fat - - „	4*s*. 6*d*. to 16*s*.	7*s*. 6*d*. to 22*s*. 6*d*.	6*s*. to 18*s*. 6*d*.
Lambs, fat - - „	3*s*. 6*d*. to 13*s*.	4*s*. to 14*s*.	3*s*. 6*d*. to 14*s*. 6*d*.
Butchers' meat—			
Beef, retail - - per lb.	2*d*. to 7*d*.	3*d*. to 8*d*.	3*d*. to 10*d*.
Mutton „ - - „	1½*d*. to 4*d*.	2*d*. to 5*d*.	1½*d*. to 5*d*.
Veal „ - - „	4*d*. to 7*d*.	5*d*. to 8*d*.	5*d*. to 8*d*.
Pork „ - - „	6*d*. to 9*d*.	6*d* to 10*d*.	6*d*. to 8*d*.
Lamb „ - - per quarter	2*s*. to 3*s*.	2*s*. to 3*s*. 6*d*.	2*s*. to 3*s*. 6*d*.
DAIRY PRODUCE.			
Butter - - - per lb.	8*d*. to 2*s*. 2*d*.	8*d*. to 2*s*.	6*d*. to 2*s*. 6*d*.
Cheese - - - „	7*d*. to 1*s*. 2*d*.	5*d*. to 1*s*.	4*d*. to 1*s*.
Milk - - - per quart	4*d*. to 6*d*.	4*d*. to 6*d*.	5*d*. to 6*d*.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.			
Geese - - - per couple	7*s*. to 10*s*.	6*s*. to 12*s*.	4*s*. to 8*s*. 6*d*.
Ducks - - - „	4*s*. 6*d*. to 7*s*.	4*s*. 6*d*. to 8*s*.	3*s*. 6*d*. to 7*s*.
Fowls - - - „	4*s*. to 6*s*. 6*d*.	4*s*. 6*d*. to 7*s*.	3*s*. to 5*s*. 6*d*.
Rabbits - - - „	1*s*.	9*d*. to 2*s*.	6*d*. to 1*s*. 4*d*.
Pigeons - - - „	1*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*.	1*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*.	1*s*. to 2*s*. 6*d*.
Turkeys - - - each	6*s*. to 15*s*.	4*s*. to 12*s*. 6*d*.	5*s*. to 19*s*.
Sucking pigs - - „	8*s*. to 10*s*.	10*s*. to 14*s*.	10*s*. to 14*s*.

Articles.		1879.	1884.	1889.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Bacon	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Ham	„	11*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*	11*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 7*s.* to 6*l.* 15*s.*	3*l.* to 15*l.* 10*s.*
Retail	per cwt.	4*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.*	3*s.* to 18*s.*
Onions, dried	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*	6*s.* to 37*s.* 4*d.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Turnips	„	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Radishes	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	6*d.* to 6*s.*	6*d.* to 3*s.*	6*d.* to 7*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 10*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	3*d.* to 1*s.*	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.* to 5*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1*d.* to 2½*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea	per lb.	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.*
Coffee	„	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	7*d.* to 10*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*
Sugar	„	3*d.* to 5*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Rice	„	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Tobacco	„	3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*
Soap, Colonial	„	2*d.* to 3½*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Candles—Sperm	„	6⅛*d.* to 1*s.* 3½*d.*	7½*d.* to 10½*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*
Salt	„	1*d.*	1*d.*	—
Coals	per ton	29*s.* to 35*s.*	25*s.* to 36*s.*	24*s.* to 30*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* 6*d.* to 13*s.* 6*d.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale	per doz.	8*s.* to 11*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Porter	„	7*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy	per gall.	21*s.* to 33*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whisky	„	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	35*s.* to 70*s.*	33*s.* to 72*s.*	—
Sherry	„	35*s.* to 70*s.*	35*s.* to 75*s.*	—
Claret	„	30*s.* to 65*s.*	32*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.*	15*s.* to 87*s.*
Champagne	„	75*s.* to 100*s.*	70*s.* to 105*s.*	33*s.* to 95*s.*
Colonial wine	„	12*s.* to 28*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*

VICTORIA.

169. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1889–90."

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 14.

ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report, No. 89, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1891.

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1891.

[C.—6269.–13.]

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81	Victoria	1888
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83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	,,
91	Grenada	,,
92	Bermuda	,,
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	,,
96	St. Lucia	,,
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	,,
100	Straits Settlements	,,
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	,,
106	British Guiana	,,
107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
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10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,

No. 14.

ZULULAND.

[In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 89, Old Series.]

Sir C. B. H. MITCHELL to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg, Natal,
May 11, 1891.

MY LORD,

IN compliance with Colonial Regulations 268–271, I have the honour to place before your Lordship, in duplicate, the annual Blue Book of Zululand for the year 1890, together with a copy of a report thereon by the Acting Resident Commissioner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. B. H. MITCHELL.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT by the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER.

Until other departments of Government are formed and the existing establishment more thoroughly organised, many of the returns for the Blue Book cannot be furnished with sufficient accuracy for statistical purposes.

Order has prevailed throughout the territory. The natives appear to appreciate the blessings of a settled government and to be contented and prosperous, with the exception that an embittered feeling still exists as a consequence of the disturbances of 1888, between the Usutu and Mandhlakazi tribes, especially in the minds of the former; though the honest endeavours of the Government to administer the laws impartially, between the two parties, and to inquire into all reasonable grounds of complaint have decidedly borne fruit; but I am of opinion that a readjustment of the respective locations of these tribes which have become so much deranged in consequence of the late disturbances is very necessary, and I have submitted proposals to His Excellency the Governor to this end.

Large numbers of the natives have sought and obtained employment on the Natal Government Railways, the Gold Fields of the South African Republic, and elsewhere, and money is accordingly plentiful amongst them. On the other hand cattle are scarce, and fetch high prices.

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ZULULAND.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1889 stood thus:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance 1st January 1889 - -	3,882	7	3
Revenue 1889 - - -	38,059	9	7
	41,941	16	10
Expenditure 1889 - - -	33,766	15	8
Balance 31st December 1889 - -	8,175	1	2

The extraordinary expenditure for 1889 amounted to 9,318*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, as shown in the report for that year.

The revenue and expenditure for 1890 is as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance 1st January 1890 - -	8,175	1	2
Revenue 1890 - - -	41,691	14	5
	49,866	15	7
Expenditure 1890 - - -	29,733	16	11
Balance on 31st December 1890 -	20,132	18	8

In the amount shown above as expended, there are included the following items of extraordinary expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
Suppression of Usutu outbreak. (Further expenditure) - - -	59	5	5
Court of Special Commissioners. (Further expenditure) - - -	345	8	6
Legal expenses in connexion with Dinizulu's appeal - - - -	69	13	9
Removal to, and maintenance of, Zulu prisoners at Saint Helena - -	1,566	1	7
	£2,040	9	3

On the other side the revenue includes the extraordinary item of 2,051*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* which represents the proceeds of the sale of the "Fine" cattle paid by the Chief Somkeli.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that there is a surplus of revenue over expenditure of 20,132*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

Military Expenditure.

A mixed force of foot and mounted native police of a combined strength of 250 non-commissioned officers and men is kept in the

country. The cost of the maintenance of the Zululand Police, a semi-military force, the establishment of which consists of one Inspector, five Sub-Inspectors, 250 non-commissioned officers and men and 40 horses was, in 1890 10,056*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*, which shows a small increase of 101*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* over the expenditure of the previous year.

Public Works.

The sum of 892*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* was expended on the repair of roads, of which 616*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* was spent on what is called the coast-road extending from Lower Tugela to the Imgoni River, thence along the eastern side of the Ungoye Range across the Umhlatuzi River to the Lower Umfolosi River.

The public buildings erected were an office for the Legal Adviser at Eshowe and Court House; offices and lock up at the magistracies in the following districts:—Entönjaneni, N'Kandhla, Nqutu, and Ndwandwe.

Legislation.

Legislation when required, is effected by Proclamation of the Governor. During 1890 seven Proclamations were made, viz.:—

No. I. applies to courts of justice in Zululand, the provisions of section 54 of the Natal Law, No. 22, 1889 entitled, "Law for the "establishment and Regulation of Inferior Courts of Justice, headed "Contempt of Courts."

No. II. appoints the Governor of Zululand to make and sign any requisition and concurrence under the provisions of the "Colonial Prisoners' Removal Act, 1884."

No. III. adopts measures to prevent the capture and destruction of wild animals.

No. IV. proclaims that the court established under the provisions of section 15 of the laws and regulations for the Government of Zululand shall be known as the "High Court of Zululand."

No. V. publishes supplementary estimates for the year 1890.

No. VI. publishes the annual estimates for the year 1891.

No. VII. amends section 74 of the general Orders and Regulations for the Zululand Police regarding compensation for officers' horses.

Establishments.

The establishments are the same as for last year, with the exception that a new Magisterial District has been created, viz., that of the U'Bombo, and an Assistant Commissioner and Resident Magistrate with the usual establishment, been appointed. The total cost of the civil establishment, exclusive of the Zululand Police, was, in 1890, 10,168*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, as against 8,878*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* in the preceding year. A portion of this increase is on account of the establishmeut of the U'Bombo Magistracy.

Officers who have given Security.

Surety bonds are taken from all officers entrusted with the collection or expenditure of public funds.

Pensions.

There are no retired Government officials as pensioners, but stipends are paid to certain Chiefs, subject to their good behaviour. These are, Usibebu, 240*l.*; Umnyamana, 120*l.*; Siwetu, 60*l.*, and Siteku, 60*l*,

Population.

Population.	European.		Native.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
Male - - -	338	349	63,386	57,393
Female - - -	189	244	75,875	79,595
Total - -	527	593	139,261	136,988

The above is a comparative statement and a mere estimate. With regard to the black population, I do not imagine there is any actual decrease. The apparent decrease may probably be accounted for by the fact that the estimate for 1889 was on an average of $3\frac{1}{3}$ occupants for each hut, whereas that for 1890 was based on more exact data, the occupants of a number of kraals in each district were counted, and the average was found to be $3\frac{1}{5}$ for each hut. The greater proportion of females to males amongst the natives is probably due to the great mortality amongst the latter owing to the late wars and intertribal fights, and also to the absence of large numbers at the fields of labour in Natal and elsewhere.

Ecclesiastical.

There are 17 mission stations established in Zululand, of which six belong to the Church of South Africa, the remainder are of the Lutheran persuasion, of which seven belong to the Norwegian Mission, one to the Mission of the Norwegian Church by the late Bishop Schreuder, one to the Swedish Mission, and two to the Hermannsberg (German) Mission.

Education.

In connexion with the above missions there were 18 schools in operation during 1890, and the number of scholars on the roll was 603. The Church of South Africa has eight schools, the

Norwegian Mission, six, that of the Norwegian Church by the late Bishop Schreuder one, the Swedish Mission one, and the German Hermannsberg Mission two. The Norwegian Mission has attempted to start an industrial school at Eshowe, and has a waggon-building shop, but only two natives were being taught last year. (This shop might form the nucleus of an industrial training establishment if Government gave a liberal grant in support, and enforced the Apprentice Act.) Beyond this there is no attempt at industrial training, except the instruction of girls in sewing and house-work.

The school training is very elementary, and the standard of education in many of the schools very low; the mission Societies are poor and cannot afford to pay good trained teachers.

Provision was made for Government aid in the estimates of 1889 as well as 1890, but the votes have not been applied.

Agriculture.

Until the harvest time, very high prices prevailed for mealies (Indian Corn) which were sold from 3*l.* to 4*l.* per muid of 200lbs., but the crops gave a fair yield, (though in many parts, such as the coast districts, and the low-lying thorn countries, they were below par,) and the prices fell to from 13*s.* to 18*s.* a muid. This year (1891) owing to a good harvest they are being sold for 5*s.* to 6*s.* per muid. In those districts which border Natal the use of the plough is becoming very general; the storekeepers state that they had numerous demands for ploughs last year, and were able to dispose of all their stock, and could have sold many more if they had had them.

I hope the use of the plough may soon become general throughout Zululand. The Resident Magistrates in the NKandhla and Nqutu Districts have been encouraging the natives to plant trees, with very good results, especially in the former district. It is impracticable, owing to the absence of a survey of the territory of Zululand, and the necessary staff, to arrive at any reliable estimate as to the respective areas of cultivated and uncultivated lands, but it may be safely assumed that, owing to the increased use of the plough, larger areas of ground are every year being brought under cultivation.

The rate of wages for natives on the Government roads and other public works is 15*s.* a month with a daily ration of 3lbs. of mealie meal and a weekly ration of 2½lbs. of meat. They obtain from 10*s.* to 30*s.* a month from private individuals.

Skilled European workmen, such as builders, carpenters, &c., earn 15*s.* for a day of eight hours.

Imports and Exports.

No means exist for ascertaining the amounts of imports and exports.

Manufactures, Mines, and Fisheries.

There are no manufactories or fisheries. The gold mining industry made no progress. A company which established a quartz battery in the NKandhla District has since failed. Many gold prospectors left the country in despair, and in fact the industry may be said to be in a state of great depression. Owing to this depression the revenue derived from the gold fields was 414*l.* less than the preceding year. The royalty paid on gold extracted during the year amounted to the small sum of 9*s.* 1*d.*

Grants of Land.

Two grants of land, comprising about 2,600 acres, were made in terms of Provisio B. of the Agreement of 22nd October 1886 with the late "New Republic."

Gaols and Prisoners.

The only gaol in Zululand is at Eshowe, to which long-sentenced prisoners are sent from other districts. It is under the supervision of the Resident Magistrate. As stated under the head of Public Works, lock-ups have been constructed at four of the Magistracies.

Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported is 1,062, as against 785 in 1889. This increase is probably due to better police supervision, rather than to an increase of crime.

Railways, Canals, Roads, and Telegraphs.

There are no railways or canals in Zululand, and no additions have been made to roads or telegraph during the year.

(Signed) F. CARDEW,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

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